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Sevagram Waits For Bapu

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'I WANT TO DIE'

—And Other Things I Want To Do!

By N. V. ESWAR

The one exasperating task in my life is that of catching the right train. I always manage to miss it. I always rush out of the house, leaving the wife at the half-open door all aghast. I would have got my right hand inside the right arm of the coat and the other hand would be struggling desperately to get into the left arm of the coat with the load of a book or two and some pieces of paper. There had been no time to polish the shoes. In fact the shoes have not come in contact with polish for nearly a month now. In the hurry to get downstairs I would have either forgotten all about tying the shoes or the laces would have got loose. And by the time I reach the street, with the coat flapping behind me, I would perfectly resemble one of the characters in the "Keep the Wagons Moving" posters minus the umbrella!

The funny side, however, is that, despite all my efforts, the 8.45 would be rushing overhead madly like a Cyclop when I come right under the bridge. This is the case almost every day. So, even if I am not punctual in catching the train, I am regular in coming under the bridge when the 8.45 comes over it! All the same I never feel ruffled. I take it as though it is the most natural thing to happen. I merely slow down my pace and walk on quite leisurely. I have never hated the 8.45. I had only feelings of thankfulness towards it for not taking me to office earlier.

'No Time To Stand And Stare!'

A few yards beyond the bridge one gets a very idyllic scene to feast one's tired eyes on. The sinking sun on the western horizon splashes such wild colours on the sky that the heart simply dances within oneself. And one feels it. The scene is so enchanting that everything else, including even one's own existence, is forgotten. I have felt this every day. I have wanted to stand motionless on the road and drink in the sight till I could do it no longer. But the military lorries will not allow me to do this, for one thing. Then there is the fear of a huge crowd gathering around me. For a person in communion with nature is a great anomaly in modern life. I will therefore be not only a curio but also a man off his senses! So enjoying the Nature undisturbed has remained merely a desire with me.

You never see a single person in the early suburban trains without a book, magazine or paper. I have never been able to understand the purpose. Perhaps their desire is to tell the outside world what busy scholars they are! But I am inclined to the thought that the book, magazine or paper merely serves as an apparatus to cover their repulsive faces. For experience has taught me that not one per cent of these unworldly sham scholars understand a word of what they read. The reality is: the book, magazine or paper merely serves as an instrument to keep away friends. Also the dependence on them during a train journey of a few minutes demonstrates amply their owners' incapacity to be good conversationalists and there through good friends. There is another side to this. A good conversationalist must be a cultured person. For only those who are really culturid can be at home with utter strangers.

It is certainly irritating to find that the educated commercial employees have not even an iota of culture to boast of. I can stand anything. But it is definitely not in me to remain calm and collected before an assembly of persons who are nominally educated but are fools in behaviour. When I sit in a corner of the railway carriage severely alone with hundreds of faces all around buried inside books, magazines or papers, something goes wrong within me. I simply rave. I feel so enraged that I never will know what I should do. The exasperation becomes all the greater when my neighbour does not show even the slightest inclination to share with me that vast treasure of knowledge he is garnering. This is the limit. I lose all my store of endurance. I can bear it no longer. I want to throw the 'scholars' out of the train.

"Want To Tell The Working Girls"

The war has brought hundreds of Indian girls out of the confines of the home. There is not to-day a single organization in our cities that does not have Indian girls on the staff. Dozens of them travel by the same train as I do. Issuing out of the platforms at Victoria Terminus, I find them sandwiched between hundreds of hurrying stenographers and clerks of the opposite sex. I have intently looked at these working girls. Every day adds to their number. As I look at the scene I grow restless. I burn to assert myself, and stand before the entire crowd, bringing them to an involuntary and sudden stop.

To stop the crowd is not enough. My wish does not end there. I would like the male section of the crowd melt away and leave me alone with the girls, so that I could have their undivided attention. I would then simply ask them the question whether commercial slavery is what they call freedom. Whether quill-driving and slaving for others represent the emancipation and freedom they were aspiring and fighting for all these years. Also whether there is not a distinction between earning like a machine and running a house on love and admiration. But being sophisticated, I have not made any attempts at this speech-making, though the desire to do so is still as green as ever.

'I Want To Die'

Every one talks of death. But no one knows what it actually is. Of course, there has been quite a sensation created by some feverish brains writing books on life beyond death. Yet no one has been able to see beyond the veil. It is all a mystery, though every one knows it is a certainty. This has made for stupefaction. Not knowing its true nature, many have dreaded the idea of dying. They are so fear-stricken that they die out of the very fear of death. Also because no one knows what is beyond, the thought that everything comes to an abrupt end with death becomes a truth. This has resulted in a reckless and disorderly existence. So to know what it is all about is not only a desire with many but an essential detail. And in this many may be included my own self. I have been of late wanting very much to die. I should assure you that this is not born out of any desire to make an easy escape. It is all purely due to self-abnegation and my humanitarian outlook on life. If only I could die and come back to tell you all about what death and life beyond it are like. Certainly there could not be anything more glorious than having lighted a dark passage.

This may be a desire tormenting a maturing brain. But, casting a look back at the earlier days, I find the desire to live and be important a strong one.

'I Want To Be In The Show'

One of my earliest desires was to become a member of a dramatic party touring the villages. It was always an ordeal with me to sit through a performance without being much agitated mentally. The reason was simple and may even appear stupid. I was never able to face the fact that others could do things that I could not. I knew there was nothing beyond me. Everything seemed so natural to me. Put in other words: the desire to outdo others in all things was a live one. Also the limelight acted like a magnet on me. Therefore, whenever I found small children, whom I considered unintelligent and even stupid, acting and being talked about by the villagers after a performance, I could not contain myself. The uppermost thought in my mind at such times was: why did the villagers not talk of me? Of course, I answered the question myself. If I showed these actor to be insignificant, I will get all the applause and be the hero. But I have not had anything to do with any dramatic party so far.

'I Want To Don A Loin Cloth'

This desire to be important has expressed itself in another way also. I have never been able to read a book through without looking blankly at the sky for hours and hours together. The one worrying thought was when I would become a well-known writer of whom every one should talk. By a well-known writer I do not mean a novelist. It has always been my feeling why I should not become greater than the authors I read. I felt actually I was greater. So I have wanted to be a philosopher doing everything wisely and telling ignorant people through all the papers and magazines in the world how to lead a perfect and happy life.

Perhaps in direct sequence is my very current and disturbing desire. I am engaged in a profession I hate. I assure you, mine is not a shady profession. It is quite honourable. I work as a stenographer. But from the very day I started learning it I have been against it. I have found nothing creative in it. It has always irritated me to hear somebody talk something for you to write down something else and type out an entirely different thing. And in all this you have no creative role to play. You are a mere receptive machine. It has never been my ambition to be a machine. I have always wanted to do something of my own, to think out some ideas of my own. But try as I could, I have not been able to get out of my present profession. So my present burning desire is to be able one day to throw the shorthand note book and pencil on the face of my boss and yell at him that I am through with him and that I could do something useful.

Though it may not seem quite relevant, this almost last desire is closely allied to the above one. My employment with European firms has forced me to don Western form of dress. I can even consider the present War as the greatest of all blessings that Western Civilization has bestowed on us. But I do not have the strength or the patience to stand pants, coats and shirts. I feel there can be no greater abomination than these. I feel the loss of freedom in them. In them I feel choked to death. So I am waiting impatiently for that blessed day when I will be able to throw away these beastly shells, put on a loin cloth and walk freely over the face of India. Very much like Mahatma Gandhi!

London On 'D' Day

By DAVID LOW

A press photographer told me that on "D" Day his assignment was to take pictures of public reactions in London to the news of our successful landings. "After all", he reflected, "in Germany they used to announce the momentous doings of Hitler's war machine with fanfares of trumpets."

Well, he started with the Stock Exchange, he found it pretty much as usual for wartime: a sprinkling of subdued gentlemen carrying on some subdued dealings, no picture. So he went to Leicester Square and Piccadilly Circus, no picture there either. Both places looked strangely empty, which only goes to show how used we've grown to see London full of Yanks and what a hole they leave when they suddenly vanish.

Those Unfailing Ducks!

Well, my friend took a taxi and went to Westminster Abbey, a handful of people, no picture. What is this—the famous English phlegm? My photographer friend saw that he hadn't the right idea, so he went and photographed the ducks on St. James's Park Lake.

It seemed that everybody was going about his or her business just as though we were not at the beginning of a crucial phase in history. Bigger queues for the newspapers and later for the news cinemas, but otherwise one might have concluded that nobody was particularly interested.

Well, one would have been wrong. Most people were too much interested to wear their hearts on their sleeves.

No Escape

As a people we entered this war reluctantly, with disgust, cursing Hitler for having laid the job on us with no escape. If we had to do it we had to learn to do it thoroughly; we made mistakes, we had disasters. We've dinned into one another, day and night: "Don't be complacent, don't be complacent." Small wonder then now that we are a bit guarded in our expression of emotion.

We gave three cheers for the great achievements of Soviet Russia; we permitted ourselves a modest bit of bell-ringing over the defeat of Rommel and Co. in North Africa; and perhaps we might have let off a packet of crackers at our American allies over the capture of Rome had not the authorities promptly overlapped it with the long-looked-for operations in Europe. So we enter this new, and perhaps final, phase of the war in a mood of sober determination and not disposed to anticipate our triumphs.

Anybody can see, however, that the Allies have made a rattling good start in the battle for France, better than we bargained for and the good work continues.—(From A B.B.C. Talk).

For a change Low draws a cartoon in words!

Best-Sellers In Chungking

China's War-Time Taste In Literature

Most popular on Chungking's book market to-day is a small human-interest book entitled "About Women' written by a woman poet under the pen name "A Gentleman."

The author of this treatise on the fair sex is Miss Hsieh Wan-ying, for many years a leading light in contemporary Chinese literature and a favourite particularly among younger readers. Better known as "Ping Hsin," another of her pseudonyms, she began her writing career seriously when she was a student at Wellessley in the 'twenties. There she made her first contribution to the then growing New Literary Movement by writing her "Letters to Little Readers", which in book form has since shot her to fame.

"About Women"

"About Women" is no three-decker novel. It is a tiny book about the author's mother, her nurse, her sister-in-law, her teacher, her landlady, and her maid servant—thirteen women in all.

Human-interest book like "About Women" no matter whether novels, plays, poetry or prose are most popular in Chungking and other Chinese cities. Half of the books published during the last few years have been of this nature.

The most popular writers include Pa Chin, Mao Tung, Kuo Mo-jo, and Tsao Yu. The best-sellers are still Pa Chin's "Home", "Spring", "Autumn" and "Fire",—the first three novels being pre-war productions. Pa Chin tells of the changing social and family situation, the conflict between the old and the new.

The war has produced a number of new novelists, poets, and playwrights. Among them is Yao Hsueh-ying, whose novel, "Liu Chuan-teh and the Red Turnip" has been regarded as the best wartime novel depicting Chinese farmer soldiers. He has written more than five long novels with the war as background.

Kuo Mo-jo is one of the old masters. His autoboigraphy, five volumes of which have come out, is read by many young people. His wartime plays have drawn large audiences and have made considerable sums of money. The best among his plays is "Chu Yuan" which tells the story of the ill-fated Chinese poet of that name. More than 10,000 copies of his "Studies on Chu Yuan" were sold during the first weeks of publication.

Foreign Novels

Chinese readers also display intense interest in foreign novels of which there are many translations. Most popular now are Margaret Mitchell's "Gone With The Wind" and Daphne Du Maurier's "Rebecca." Ernest Hemingway's "For

(Continued on Page 15.)

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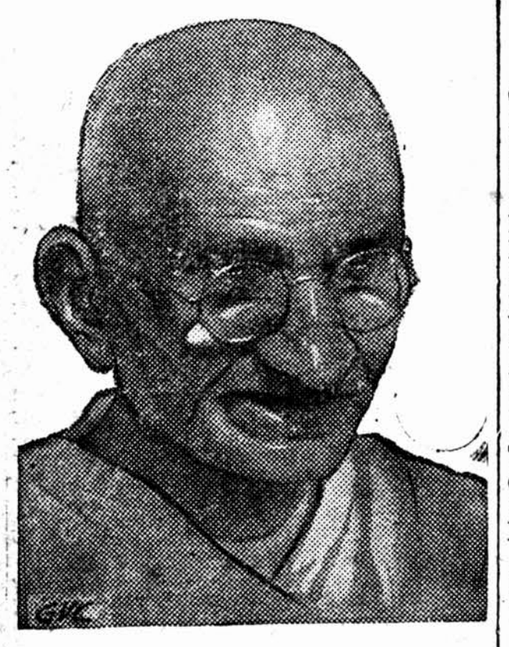
Sevagram Waits For Bapu

By G. S. Kalyanpur



GANDHIJI
His heart is in his village hut.

There was a long, ear-splitting metallic screech, followed by a dead silence in the lecture hall. The eager audience which seemed to hang on to every soft-spoken word which fell from the lips of Gandhiji, looked round uneasily. It was the mike again, living up to its "reputation" of letting down a speaker at the right moment. A radio expert on the spot fussed about with screw-drivers but the mike lay dead, irresponsive to the touch of a band of mechanics who followed one another for the next several minutes.

Gandhiji waited patiently for some time, saw the mechanics scratching their heads and resumed his speech in a low, deliberate tone. He was not in the best of health. A dietetic experiment with "soya" bean had led to some physical complications and the best that his vocal chords could do was unequal to the occasion. There were hushed voices from odd corners of the hall, indicative of the listeners' impatience. There was a flutter at the press table too. From the dais above where Gandhiji sat cross-legged in front of the dumb mike, not a word seemed to travel across the hall. The rest of the proceedings looked a pantomime. Pressmen bungled when they saw the pantomime through and walked away contentedly, armed with a copy of the authorised translation of Gandhiji's speech supplied to them in advance. The speech was an address to the All-India Hindi Sahitya Sammelan at the Nagpur University Convocation Hall. Pressmen never imagined that the extempore speech of Gandhiji at the Sammelan would cover some new ground. And thus the world, with the exception of the solitary city of Delhi lost track for 48 hours, of a great, romantic announcement from Gandhiji of a major decision of his life.

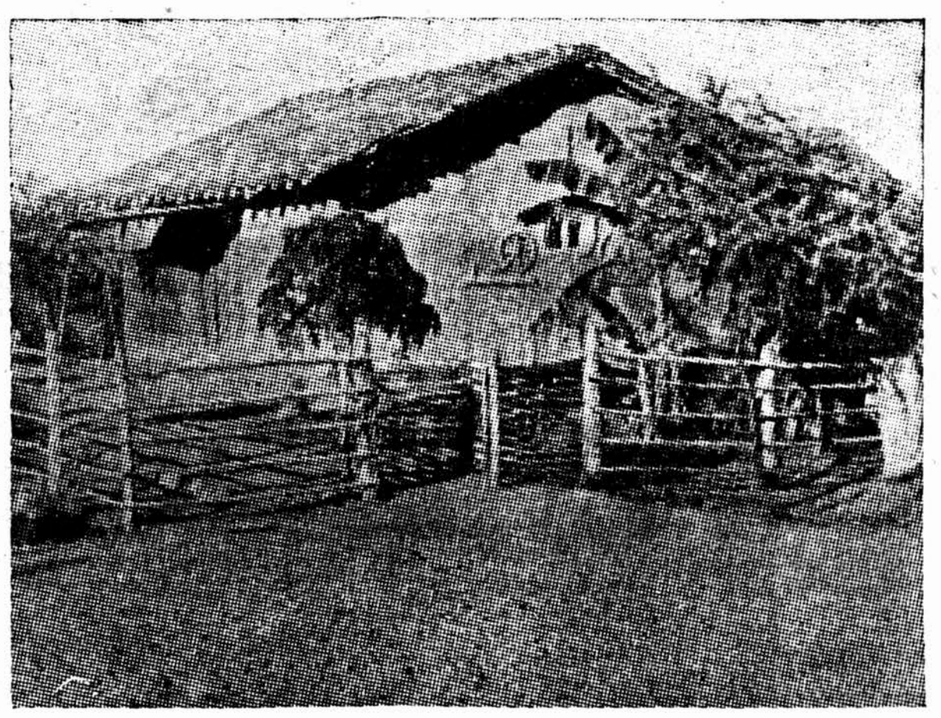
Sevagram On World Map

The little village known till 1935 as Shegaon, six miles from Wardha, had been put on the world map with that announcement which seemed to have been wedged in by Gandhiji, in a long speech on the importance of Hindi. The Mahatma had revealed that after lengthy deliberations and discussions with his colleagues, he had decided to do away permanently with an urban setting for his life. He was to shift from Wardha the busy cotton centre of the Central Provinces to a quiet village in the interior and devote the rest of his life to the Indian peasant, the backbone of the country's life. Lucky Shegaon was his choice.

The news which was brewing for a long time at Wardha had remained a secret to everyone except a few close associates of Gandhiji. And even after its public announcement at Nagpur, the world's press was unaware of it for two days, till the "dak" edition of the "Hindustan Times" of Delhi flashed it in a banner headline, while reporting Gandhiji's speech at the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan. The Delhi paper did not fail to cover it because Mr. Mahadev Desai, Gandhiji's Secretary who is no more with us, was accredited by the paper for the occasion. Sitting next to Gandhiji on the dais at the Sammelan, he had heard the announcement. But mere listening was not all that mattered. A great journalist that he was, Mr. Desai had brought out cleverly, in his dispatch, the local colour and the dramatic element involved in the announcement which had been made in a speech where it was least expected. Pressmen who were gathered at Nagpur were on the stretcher when the banner headline in the "Hindustan Times" hit their eye. But they recovered soon enough to lift the news and splash it through the length and breadth of the world.

Rechristened By Bapu

Rechristened later as Sewagram or the village of service, obscure Shegaon, with its black cotton soil and extremes in weather had sky-rocketted into news overnight, to become the favourite "Gram" of Gandhiji. Many little towns and villages, Sabarmati, Dandi, Tithal, Bardoli, Juhu, Panchgani which had remained in obscurity for years, have figured in the columns of the press, day after day, because of Gandhiji's association with them. But Sewagram is the greatest of them all because, as he has declared often, Gandhiji's soul pines away for this little village which he has patterned after his own heart so that he could serve the dumb millions of India to the best of his capacity.



Gandhiji's Three-roomed hut in Sevagram
For years it was the cynosure of the nation's eye.

Sewagram waits.—The little new born village which since 1935 was the hub of political India and the centre and inspiration of all activities designed to exalt the dumb, poor millions of India, is patiently awaiting the return of its Master. The surf-swept sands of Juhu and the cloud-capped hills and valleys of Panchgani are but the halting places in the pilgrim's path. His permanent abode is the "village of service."

The story of Sewagram has a romance of its own. I watched it from its birth. I watched it as it grew. Here is its story.

Miraben's Discovery

The discovery of Shegaon has a romantic touch, a mortgage transaction deciding the issue. The story starts with tall, stately Miraben sauntering down the Wardha high way one day and branching off into narrow, dust-laden paths leading to distant villages. She had planned to spot out a suitable village where she could settle down, building a hut of mud and thatch for herself and start serving the villager. It was to be a practical experiment in village uplift work. Sitting on a Khaddar-covered "gadi", with "dhanush takli" standing by to engage every minute of his spare time, Gandhiji directed these operations in the sphere of uplift, from his little room at Maganwadi near Wardha. Miraben's initial work was in the nature of prospecting the field. Like a patient scout, she trudged for miles and miles, day after day, studying village conditions and the peasant's psychology. Sindhi Meghe, a dirt-laden, stinking village, about a mile from Maganwadi hit her eye. There was much to be done here for the half-starved population which grovelled in dirt and disease. Not a villager had any civic sense. He invariably threw the dirt at the neighbour's door. Latrines were unknown, any street corner serving the purpose. Their children never went to school. They wore the same rags, day after day, without washing. The adults in the village sat listlessly about and wasted the major part of the day. There was need to teach them some handicrafts. Here was a rich field where the charkha could thrive. And so Miraben of tough nerves and ascetic habits built a hut in Meghe Sindhi and shifted her quarters from Maganwadi. Gandhiji walked down frequently to watch the progress of work. There were many difficulties in the way, the most pronounced being the rank apathy of the villager. But Miraben's patience was boundless and nothing could damp her enthusiasm. She had the assistance of many of the Ashramites at Wardha who would walk down to Meghe Sindhi in the early hours of the morning, work with the villagers the whole day and walk back in the night.

It was unfair to give Meghe Sindhi a monopolistic attention. Miraben was aware of this. So she enlarged her field of operations. There was frequent reconnaissance of neighbouring areas. It was during one of these that Miraben discovered Shegaon, about four miles from Maganwadi. Strange circumstances led to the selection of this village as Gandhiji's permanent headquarters.

Mortgage Decides Issue

Owned by a Rajput, a part of the village of Shegaon comprising of 250 acres, had been mortgaged, for a long time, to Messrs. Bachraj Jamnalal, the personal firm of the late Mr. Jamnalal Bajaj. Early in 1935, this portion of the village suddenly came into the possession of Mr. Bajaj, the owner having failed to redeem the mortgage. The villagers here were found more responsive whenever Miraben paid a visit during her arduous campaign of up-lift. She decided one day to shift from Meghe Sindhi, built a little hut at Shegaon and started work in new surroundings. Gandhiji paid frequent visits to Shegaon. The progress of work was pleasing to him.

While Miraben was conducting this practical experiment in the midst of villagers, a plan was crystallising in the mind of Gandhiji that he should give up urban surroundings shift to a village and be one among the peasants, working for them heart and soul and sharing their joys and sorrows.

"Why not shift to Shegaon?" pleaded Miraben one day.

Jamnalal's Gift

"I will make a gift of the village to you, Bapu", announced Mr. Jamnalal Bajaj, one of the truest of Gandhiji's disciples and colleagues who had already donated lakhs of rupees for building Maganwadi, the headquarters of the Village Industries Association and the Wardha Ashram. Gandhiji decided in favour of Miraben's choice and so it was that in bright sunshine, one day, a start was made on an humble-looking three-room, mud structure, with dried palm-leaf roofing, under the supervision of Miraben. That was to be the abode of Gandhiji for the rest of his life. The plan of the hut was drawn up by Miraben in consultation with Gandhiji. A portion of the walls of bamboo matting plastered with mud was Miraben's own handi work. The shifting to Shegaon was uneventful.

Arduous Pilgrimage

It was a wet rainy day in 1935, when the gharry in which I got a jolting lift from the Wardha station came to a dead halt on an improvised, marshy road, three miles from the town. "The horse can go no further because the road is kutcha", wailed the driver, putting out his palm for a full fare from the station to Shegaon, though we had still to make two miles. It had started pouring heavily and the prospect of having to trudge along a muddy road was not pleasant. I had started whole-sale self-condemnation for selecting a rainy day for the pilgrimage to Gandhiji's hut when a pleasant-looking gate-keeper at the railway level-crossing in the vicinity, hailed me with the query: "Going for Gandhiji's darshan, Babuji? But you won't find him now. He will be on his evening stroll in the fields with Vinobaji Bhave and Miraben before you reach Shegaon." He wound up with a word of caution: "Don't risk it now. There is no place at Shegaon to spend the night. Come in the morning but come prepared to walk. There is no good road."

There was the gate-keeper at the level crossing with a ready smile again, the next morning, when I ventured on foot in rainy weather. Rain or sunshine, he is always there, with the stop press news from Sevagram in the matter of Gandhiji's daily movements. He has a diary of every pedestrian who passes the wicket gate in the direction of Sevagram. I have sometimes felt that this smiling, turbaned Bhaya serves as a kind of an "In—Out" board for Gandhiji's hut, though staying a mile away. No newspaper man need repent for stopping at the gate for a chat with him.

"Don't go to Shegaon market side," he cautioned me on the first occasion. Gandhiji's 'jhopdi' is not there. And with some kind of Kathakali gestures, he gave me detailed directions to reach Sevagram which is a little away from the old village of Shegaon and its market.

A Model Village

Along an irregular path which cut through a vast expanse of plain country, dotted with low bushes and a kind of wild date palm called khajuri, I trekked my way to Gandhiji's favourite gram.

(Continued on Page 11)

ROMAN, NAGARI AND URDU SCRIPTS

An Appraisal

By Sajjad Mirza

Hindustani, the 'lingua franca' of India, has no script of its own. It is written in Urdu, Nagari and in Roman characters also, but on a smaller scale. The British have used Roman for nearly a century.

In every human being there are senses of obligation as well as of licence, of submission as well as of domination. Unfortunately Urdu and Nagari Scripts are associated with our general behaviour and create feelings of inequality, superity, inferiority and snobbery. The Roman Script occupies a neutral position.

Hindustani is the 'lingua franca of India. Roman will bridge the ever-increasing gulf between Urdu and Hindi. It will help in the development of a truly national terminology and language for India, just the terminology for sciences has been developed in Europe on an international basis. To handle new situations, new instruments must be forged.

NAGARI SCRIPT

(a) The Nagari Script is cumbersome and defective. Its reform under the auspices of Mahatma Gandhi attempted by the Lipi Samiti, Hindi Sahitya Sammelan in 1935 has not yet been achieved. The writing of Nagari is acknowledged to be difficult. Printing is still worse. Deva Nagri comprises of 49 independent letters but in printing it employs through combination of consonants with vowels of other consonants about 700 different printing characters, thereby providing a voluminous composing system. "To set a single letter in Nagari involves three different operations, since above and below the consonant, vowel symbols are added and from about 700 boxes, the compositor has to pick up the required characters, set the line and then place the characters back in their respective boxes ....." (Hari Govind Govil) Other fractional systems of printing are equally difficult and defective.

(b) The Nagari Script has certain communal associations which do not make it acceptable to Muslims and others with religious or communal susceptibilities.

URDU SCRIPT

(a) Urdu Script though comparatively simple is no better for printing. Its orthography is still in a state of evolution. Litho printing is out of question for accuracy and scientific works. 'Nastaliq' type has proved a failure. Arabic 'Naskh' type is not a practical proposition for Urdu for "the printing of fully vocalised text is a very expensive, because a very difficult business. It is only the Quran (for dogmatic reasons) and certain school books which are either heavily subsidised or can command large enough sales to recover expenses, which enjoy the luxury of being vowelled. The newspaper and all other printing with the two exceptions just mentioned, appear either entirely unvocalised or at most with a few vowels inserted to assist legibility" (Arberry).

Types of small points like 6 or less could not be made owing to complexity of initials and medical joints etc. Father Anastase, Member of Egyptian Academy of the Arabic language, in his 'Risalah fi Kitabat al Arabiya,' exposes the shortcomings of the Arabic alphabet as compared with the Roman; but to forestal the objections of the religious conservatives he adds that his new system will make the learning of the old script easy.

(b) The Urdu translations and technical terms of the Osmania University have a restricted field on account of the Urdu Script. The price of the publications owing to conservative methods of Urdu printing is beyond the reach of the average man.

(c) Urdu Script is not acceptable to the majority of Hindus and other non-Moslems.

ROMAN SCRIPT

Roman will facilitate the learning of Hindustani by the non Hindustani speaking people of India, especially by those who know English. It will be an example for the various regional languages with different scripts. It will help in the adoption of a common script for all Indian languages. Even as an auxiliary Script it will symbolise the unity of India in its diversity.

(a) The Script is a mechanical device for expression. It should be judged from the scientific and utilitarian point of view. The Script for the common and the national language of India should be scientific, economical, secular and intercommunal or inter-national. Roman fulfils these conditions.

(b) Prejudice against Roman as foreign is not justified. "English is historically a distant relation of Sanskrit, both belonging to the Indo-European family of languages." (Firth). Roman is a new clothing which does not interfere with the real contents of Hindustani.

(c) Roman has all the advantages of the latest improvements in typography. It is easiest and most economical in printing and typing. For these very reasons, it has been adopted by Turkey and by Russia for Eastern languages. Nationalist China is using Roman for the removal of its illiteracy with remarkable results. In Japan in 1900 the Education Department appointed a committee for the discussion of this problem; as a result 'Japanese system of Orthography of Romanised Japanese was evolved.' In 1905 the magazine 'Romanji' appeared as the organ of the Society for extending Romanised Japanese, which aims at a change of characters from the Chinese and Kana into Roman characters.

There are several systems of Roman which aim at safeguarding the features which are supposed to be inherent in the Urdu or Nagari Scripts:

(1) 'The Scheme of Roman characters adopted by the International Congress of Orientalists at Athens in 1912.' It has been acknowledged as satisfactory for both Urdu and Hindi. The scheme is adaptable for typing from the ordinary English type-writer.

(2) 'The scheme of the International Phonetic Association for Hindustani.' It also claims to ensure correct pronunciation.

(3) I have also proposed a simple scheme for 'Romanised Hindustani' for printing, typing and cursive writing.

In this connection, "one should remember that though individual variations may be infinite, the repertory of the principal types of sound which the human mechanism of utterance can produce is limited and well within the range of our (English) alphabetic resources if extra letters and diacritical marks be added to the Roman alphabet. At the present moment about 160 symbols are necessary—120 or so for consonants and about 40 for vowels." (Firth).

* * *

ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE ADOPTION OF THE ROMAN SCRIPT FOR HINDUSTANI.

1. 'There is a natural accord between a language and its script. If this relationship were to be done away with, it would be difficult for a language to preserve its natural form and character. (Nawab Mahdi Yar Jung, Education Member, H.E.H. The Nizam's Government).

2. The Urdu language is as much linked up with its Persian or Arabic Script as Hindi with the Devanagari Script. Both Scripts have an individuality and a sanctity of their own.

3. The Urdu Script is a kind of shorthand. It has speed and occupies less space.

4. The Urdu Script is allied to several scripts common in N. W. India, Middle East. N. Africa and Malaya. It has an international character in the East.

5. The Nagari Script has a close connection with the scripts used for several Indian languages like Mahratti, Gujrati, Bengali etc. It is truly Indian and native in character.

6. If the Urdu and Nagari Scripts are defective from the point of view of Typography, the defects should be removed. Defects in printing do not warrant and justify the adoption of an altogether new and foreign script. Reformed type fonts have been made for both Urdu and Nagari. It is claimed that they are as efficient and economical as the Roman fonts.

7 The examples of Turkey or Russia, etc. do not suit India as their adoption of Roman was due to some special circumstances which do not exist in India.

8. Roman does not possess all the advantages claimed for it. It may be suitable for printing and typing but simplicity and economy are not the characteristics of the proposed Roman Systems.

9. The adoption of a foreign script for the common and national language for India will be detrimental to the language, damaging to the dignity and harmful to the national spirit of India.

10. If a common script for Hindustani or other Indian languages is desirable, the Muslims claim that it should be Urdu (Sir Abdul Kader at the All-India Urdu Conference) while the Hindus demand that it should be Nagari: "the Nagari Script is the most perfect in the world" (Mahatma Gandhi)..."The Indian Journal of Adult Education."

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Jinnah Backs Out Of Own Offer!

TRUTH ABOUT RAJAJI FORMULA

Raja Maheshwar Dayal Seth Makes Sensational Disclosures

A statement tracing the genesis of Mr. Rajagopalachari's formula for a League-Congress settlement has been issued by Raja Maheshwar Dayal Seth of Kotra, ex-General Secretary of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha.

The following is the text of his statement:

The proposals made by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari for a communal settlement with the approval of Mahatma Gandhi are none other than those which Mr. Jinnah himself had proposed and are in accordance with the famous Pakistan resolution of the Muslim League passed at its Lahore session in 1940.

I may take the public into confidence and state that the Working Committee of the A-I Hindu Mahasabha in August, 1942, appointed a Special Committee to negotiate with leaders of principal political parties and to mobilise public opinion in support of the national demand. I was then General Secretary of the Hindu Mahasabha and, on behalf of this Committee, carried on negotiations with Mr. Jinnah, and through the help of a common friend who holds a very important position in the Muslim League the following terms were offered by Mr. Jinnah for compromise:

JINNAH'S TERMS.

The leader of the Muslim League endorses the national demand for freedom as adumberated in the resolution of August 30, 1942, of the Working Committee of the A-I Hindu Mahasabha and expresses the League's readiness to join other parties to fight for and win freedom immediately provided a settlement is reached with the League guaranteeing certain broad principles. In the event of such a settlement being reached the League will co-operate in the formation of provincial composite government.

The broad principles to be agreed to are that after the war:—

(a) A commission shall be appointed to mark out contiguous areas in the north-west and north-east of India where the Muslim population is in majority

(N.B.—Mr. Jinnah personally told Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerji, Chairman of the Special Committee when he met him in September, 1942, that majority did not actually mean 51 per cent. It should be more, say, 55 per cent.)

(b) In these two areas there shall be a universal plebiscite and if the majority of the population vote in favour of a separate sovereign state, such a state shall be formed.

(c) In the event of separation Muslims shall not demand any safeguard for Muslim minority in Hindustan. It will be open to the two Indias to arrange on a reciprocal basis safeguards for religious minorities in the respective states.

(d) There shall be no corridor between the two Muslim areas in the north-west and north-east of India but the two areas shall constitute one sovereign state.

(e) Indian States shall be left out of consideration.

(f) A government machinery shall be provided for giving due facilities for transfer of population absolutely on voluntary basis.

So it will be seen that there is practically no change in the proposals made by Rajaji.

Of course, neither I nor the Hindu Mahasabha could accept these proposals as we could not possibly be a party to any proposal for the vivisection of the country in any shape or form. But at the conference held by Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru at his place at Allahabad in December, 1942, which was attended, among others, by Mr. Rajagopalachari,

I simply read out the terms offerred on behalf of the League for settlement and I gave a copy of it to Mr. Rajagopalachari as well who showed it to Mahatmaji during his 21 days' fast in March, 1943, and got his approval to the proposals.

Rajaji called me to Delhi, on March 26, 1943, and I again got in touch with Mr. Jinnah through another common friend holding an equally important position in the League but, to my great surprise Mr. Jinnah was unwilling to accept the terms which he himself had offered in September, 1942.—("Pioneer")

SIKH OPPOSITION

LAHORE, July 14.

A joint statement signed by Sardar Santosh Singh, M.L.A., Sardar Harnamsingh, President, All-India Sikh League, Sardar Jogindar Singh, General Secretary, Shiromani Akali Dal, Jathedar Monansingh, S. Basantsingh of Moga and Giani Shersingh says:—

The formula for communal settlement of Mr. Rajagopalachari which is supported by Mahatma Gandhi has **created a stir in the Sikh community.** How can Mahatma Gandhi make such an offer to Mr. Jinnah in the face of the definite assurance given by the Indian National Congress in its Lahore session of 1929 to the Sikhs to the effect that the Congress will be party to no communal settlement which does not give full satisfaction to the Sikhs? We strongly protest against this offer on behalf of the Sikh community and hereby declare that the Sikhs will fight to the bitter end against the proposal. We must state for the benefit of all concerned that the Sikhs will agree to no settlement which establishes communal rule over them or over a considerable part of them as the present proposal does.—A. P.

AMENDMENTS TO "C. R.'s" TERMS

LUCKNOW, July 15: U.P. political circles, both Congress and League, are watching the situation as it is developing after the publication of Rajaji's proposals to Mr. Jinnah and the recent interview Gandhiji gave to the "News Chronicle" correspondent.

Mr. Z. H. Lari has been the first to break the tabled a resolution for the forthcoming meeting of the A.-I. Muslim League Council suggesting the addition of two more paras to C.R.'s proposals Mr. Lari's additional proposals are:—

(1) Mandatory and adequate safeguards for minorities shall be agreed to and provided for and incorporated in the future constitution to be framed for India or any part thereof.

(2) In case no agreement is reached between the two contracting parties as to the personnel of the F.O. Commission and contemplated in para 2, present provinces, Punjab Sind, Baluchistan and N.W.F.P. on one hand and Bengal on the other shall be aimed to be areas for the purposes of plebiscite envisaged in the para 2 of Rajaji's proposals. In case Gandhiji intimates to the President of the League that he is willing to discuss the suggested additions, the Working Committee of the All-India Muslim League shall appoint a Committee of three to meet Gandhiji and his colleagues and evolve a complete agreement for settlement on all outstanding problems between Hindus and Muslims.

ALLIES GAIN MORE GROUND

Americans Within One Mile Of Lessay

S.H.A.E.F., July 15.

It is learned here today that substantial advances have been made in the Periers and Saint Lo areas. Americans are now within two miles of Periers from the north and two and a half miles of Saint Lo from the north and north east. Americans also won small gains this morning west of Lessay and are now within one mile of the town. The Germans are expected to try to make a stand on the Saint Lo-Periers-Lessay line.

A 'communique' from General Eisenhower's Headquarters today said: "More ground was gained by the Allies in the base of the Cherbourg peninsula.

"West of Lessay our patrols advanced through Saint Germain Sur Ay against light opposition to Mezieres. We have approached more closely to Lessay by taking Beauvais and La Jourdaineries. A few miles further east we have taken La Londe and have reached the flooded basin of the Ay river. Driving through Georges and Saint Germain our units reached Les Granges and linked up south of Le Hommet with troops advancing around east of the Gorges marshes.

Between Sainteny and the Vire River and in the area east of Saint Lo a number of local advances were made.

There is nothing to report from the remainder of the front.

Yesterday afternoon heavy bombers attacked targets in the Amiens area and medium bombers attacked bridges at bridges at Bourth an Merey. Other targets included motor transport south of Caen, enemy positions in the Saint Lo area and an enemy radio installation near Le Havre. During yesterday 25 enemy aircraft were shot down. Seven of ours are missing.

Last night the railway centre of Villentine Saint Georges was attacked barracks north-east of Poiters. Two enemy aircraft were destroyed last night, one by intruders over Belgium and other over the battle area."—Reuter.

RECOGNITION OF INDIAN INDEPENDENCE NOW

Mahatma Explains His Proposal For Ending Deadlock

PANCHGANI, July 15.

"My plan contemplates an immediate recognition of full independence for India as a whole subject to limitations for the duration of war to meet the requirements of Allied operations. The Cripps' plan, as I understand it, dealt more with the future than with immediate arrangements."

Thus observed Mahatma Gandhi in an exclusive interview to the "United Press" Special Representative this evening when the latter requested him to explain the difference between his latest plan as revealed in the interview he gave to the correspondent of the "News Chronicle", London, and the Cripps' plan.

"Moreover", added Mahatma Gandhi, "in my opinion the Cripps' Plan meant the dismemberment of India, the Indian States being set up as an all-extensive disintegrating factor."

Replying to the views expressed by British Statesmen that Gandhiji's plan comes very near to the Cripps' plan and that there is no difference between his plan and the proposals of the former Lord Privy Seal, the Mahatma added: "But if my plan is considered by British Statesmen to be not very different from the Cripps' plan it should be all the easier for them to accept it."

Replying to another question, namely, what if Mr. Jinnah sticks to the plebiscite of Muslims only in the districts or the provinces where the Muslims are in majority, Gandhiji said: "Neither Quid-e-Azam Jinnah nor the Muslim League have pronounced their opinion on Rajaji's formula. I would deprecate anticipating them. Rajaji is with me. We have agreed for the sake of conserving my limited energy that he should deal with the questions arising from the formula. For my part I would appeal to questioners, foreign or Indian, not to forestall the Muslim League."

Asked as to how he would fix the ratio if the League and Congress in the National Government, Gandhiji said:—"If indication of my mind affords any satisfaction to the authorities they should open the gates of the prison and let those who can speak with authority pronounce upon my proposal or at least let me confer with them. As it is, I do not know that I nave not embarrassed them by my sharing my personal opinion."

"I am always willing to meet Jinnah," replied Gandhiji promptly to a question whether he would meet Mr. Jinnah personally.

Yet another question regarding his views on the Fifteen Year Plan for the economic development of India, better known as the Bombay Plan and whether the crisis like the one which overtook Bengal could be permanently avoided by acceptance of such a plan, elicited a reply from the Mahatma that the Bombay Plan was a Post-war plan." Anyway he thought the question should be addressed to the authors of the plan.—United Press.

LATEST NEWS

ASSAULT ON ST. LO.

LONDON, July 15.

The German Overseas News Agency war correspondent, Guenther Weber, writing from the Headquarters of Field Marshal von Kluge this afternoon said: "The First American Army launched an attack on Saint Lo this morning. The Fifth and Nineteenth Army Corps are engaged.

General Bradley's forces are continuing to attack strongly against the Germans bitterly defending Saint Lo, says a S.H.A.E.F. message.

Heavier shelling and increased air activity marked the continued lull in the Caen area.—Reuter.

EISENHOWER WARNS GERMANS

S.H.A.E.F., July 15: An official announcement from S.H.A.E.F. to-day said: As there is now conclusive evidence that the German forces in France are now regarding the members of the French Resistance Forces as 'franc tirurs,' General Eisenhower has made it known that the French Forces of the Interior constitute a combatant force commanded and directed by General Koenig. They form an integral part of the Allied Expeditionary Force and are provided with a distinctive emblem. They are regarded by Gen. Eisenhower as an army under his command. In these circumstances reprisals against resistance groups violate the rules of war by which Germany is bound, the announcement said, adding that every effort shall be made to trace the authors of any atrocities committed against the members of the forces under his command. Steps to this end are already being taken.—Reuter.

IN ITALY

BERLIN, July 15: To-day's German "Communique" declared that in Italy strong Allied attacks continued between the Ligurian coast and Poggibonsi which "was lost after heavy street fighting". German troops in this area were withdrawn a few kilometres to the north.—Reuter.

POLISH GOVT. AND RUSSIA

LONDON, July 15: The Polish Government today issued a statement with regard to the entry of Russian troops into Vilna. The statement, which resulted from yesterday's and this morning's meetings of the Polish Cabinet, declared: "The Polish Government maintain their point of view that no territorial changes which take place during the war can be recognised unless they are brought about with the free consent and goodwill of the parties concerned."

"Reuter" adds that Vilna within the prewar Polish frontiers became the capital of the Lithuanian Soviet Republic in 1939.—Reuter.

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INDIA DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT

(From Our Correspondent)

LONDON, July 15.

I understand that the Commons debate on India will take place on August 1. Lord Strabolgi will raise the question on Indian political situation in the Lords on July 25.

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IMPORTANT HILL FEATURES TAKEN

Fifth Army Continues To Advance: Bombers Over Budapest Area

LONDON, July 15.

Mediterranean Allied Force Advance Headquarters "Communique" to-day said that the Fifth Army has taken most important hill features between Cecina river and Arno.

The "Communique" stated: "By the night of July 13/14, American and French troops of the Fifth Army had fought their way forward and had taken the most important hill features between Cecina river and the Arno. Without pause on July 14, the Bastille Day, French troops of the Fifth Army pressing forward have taken Poggibonsi, an important road communication centre between Arezzo and Leghorn and have advanced all along their front.

To the west, American troops have pressed on with great vigour taking Chianni and Peccioli and in one sector have advanced more than three and a half miles. This brings their troops within some ten miles of the Arno and due east of Leghorn.

In the coastal sector leading elements are now only six miles from the outskirts of Leghorn.

In the central sector patrols and artillery have been extremely active on both sides and small gains have been made in the upper Tiber Valley.

In the mountainous sector our troops have occupied Gualdo Tadino, Fossatto di Vico and Cingoli and are closing in on the town of Farriano.

In the Adriatic sector positions remain unchanged.

Four oil refineries and railway yard in Budapest area were attacked yesterday by medium forces of heavy bombers while fighter aircraft carried out an offensive sweep over the target area. Other heavy bombers attacked Mantua railway yard in Northern Italy. Tactical aircraft attacked enemy communications and other targets in northern Italy and over the battle area and struck at objectives in Yugoslavia. Last night our bombers attacked an oil refinery at Brod in Yugoslavia. In these operations 11 enemy aircraft were destroyed and 13 of ours are missing. Six of our aircraft are missing from night operations on July 13 to 14. MAAF flew approximately 2,200 sorties."—Reuter.

RUSSIAN FLOOD THREATENS PRUSSIA

A WEEK OF WAR By N. G. Jog

JULY 14.

History does not repeat itself but the developments on the Russian front, where the crash of Red artillery is already being echoed from the German territory, make one wonder whether world war two has not reached the stage where world war one was this day 26 years ago.

The Wehrmacht is no doubt a tough proposition still as is evident from Kesselring's bitter rearguard action in Italy and Rommel's stubborn resistance in Normandy. It has not yet lost its fighting elan—except on the Eastern Front. But so was the case with the German army in 1918, too. Only a few weeks before its final capitulation, it was being primed for a grand offensive. It, too, was tough: tough but brittle. It had lost its resiliency. So when the collapse came, it was complete. Nothing was saved from it except the desire of the German junkers and Generals to avenge the defeat—to fight another world war!

The situation to-day is, if anything, more portentous than it was in 1918. In the last war the German army was fighting only on one front. Now not only has the Fuehrer's pet Frankenstein's monster of a two-front war come to life and is threatening to devour its creator, but the Germans are also actually fighting on four fronts, if we include the Finnish theatre where a hundred thousand crack German troops are garrisoned—and doomed! We thus witness the anomaly of offensive spirit on one front and demoralised retreat on the other. While in Normandy the German prisoners are still cocky and defiant, fantastic scenes of surrender "en masse" are reported from White Russia.

Wagnerian Appeals

The material difference between 1918 and 1944 lies in this that Hitler's home front is still intact while the Kaiser's was showing unmistakable cracks in the last year of war. This can, of course, be explained by the complete grip which the Gestapo has established on the German people. The faintest sign of defeatism, not to talk of incipient revolt, is stamped down ruthlessly and it is, therefore, futile to expect in the fourth Reich a popular rising against its rulers as was the case in 1918.

Even so the latest propaganda line of Dr. Goebbels reveals that the Nazi bosses also are becoming apprehensive of the approach of the war to the German soil. He is whipping up the enthusiasm of the German people by warning them that the nation is in mortal danger. "In this hour when the enemy has begun his general assault on Europe, everybody must meet the demand of the hour for the total throwing in of the individual and of the whole nation, with all the material and spiritual resources at his command."

Even more significant than this is the Goebbelsian wail of final annihilation: "Germany's enemies intend to eradicate the German people and its way of life, root and branch. There is no possibility for us to renew this conflict, say in 10 or 50 years, if we should prove incapable of resisting the onslaught in this decisive time." Similar grim warnings are being delivered to the German army as well. The German Overseas News Agency broadcast the following Wagnerian appeal last Tuesday.

"The situation is serious. All is now at stake. The Russian flood threatens our holy German land. But we German soldiers are determined to keep it from our loved ones at home. This holy war must now become really a total war. Before the peril can reach the heart of our beloved country we will turn this continent into a maelstrom of destruction, where only one cry is heard —the cry for blood!"

Rundstedt Sacked

In view of these frank confessions of the doom that awaits Germany, one wonders whether the recent dismissal of Field Marshal Rundstedt from the command of the Second Front was prompted by the desire to remove a potential Badoglio. (By the way it is rather remarkable that no news has come during the last few weeks about the Italian Marshal or his successors in Rome.) For the only alternative to the Nazi Raj is the rule of the Prussian Generals, of whom Rundstedt is the high priest.

It is true that the brilliant reputation built up by Rundstedt in the present war—Poland, France, Ukraine—has been shattered by the ignominous disaster suffered by him in Normandy. Gen. Eisenhower has outgeneralled and outfought him and the Fuehrer has lost no time in giving him the sack. Rundstedt was not a "persona grata" with the Nazis and he is reported to have had the effrontery to write to Hitler that he had already lost the war and even to advise him to resign!

But while Rundstedt has gone the way of Manstein, Kleist and a dozen other top-ranking Generals, Rommel is still in command in Normandy in spite of the series of reverses he has suffered from El Alamein to Caen. There is said to have been a serious difference of opinion between Rundstedt and Rommel regarding the conduct of operations. The overall strategy was decided by the former while the latter was in charge of the field. Both have proved complete failures and should have shared the same fate. Rommel, the pet of the Party, has remained, but it is significant that von Kluge and not he has stepped into Rundstedt's shoes. It remains to be seen whether these two make a better team than the previous one for Kluge is the avowed exponent of "victorious defence" while Rommel's record is one of disastrous offensives!

Monty-Rommel Match

And in this, true to type, he seems to be still playing in the hands of his old adversary, Montgomery. In the beginning he sent his Panzers in piecemeal fashion only to see them wiped out by the Allies. Probably the German High Command refrained from committing its armour in any considerable strength in the fear that the landing in Normandy might be a mere feint and that the real blow would fall somewhere else. This gave an excellent opportunity to the Allies to build up their strength. Again Rommel's preoccupation with the Caen sector made the going easy for the Americans in the Cherbourg peninsula.

Nor was the German Commander able to save Caen which fell last Sunday in spite of the prolonged resistance offered. The occupation of this key centre of communications can be, therefore, said to be a decisive even if minor victory for the Allies. Monty once again turned the tables upon his old rival and immediately launched an offensive across the river Odon, south-west of Caen. This attack has not made any appreciable progress during the last five days but it has at any rate compelled Rommel to throw in his tanks.

In a week Rommel has sacrificed 118 tanks, which represents a severe loss for him in view of the breakdown in his lines of supply. Right in front of the present British position lies the start of flat open country stretching for miles in a south-easterly direction. This would give an excellent opportunity to Montgomery to deploy his armour—for the first time after the landing—and Rommel has presumably massed his five Panzer divisions in the area in order to give a battle-royal to the Allies. Much will depend upon its outcome.

"Well Done! Well Done!"

The second front now stretches over a hundred miles. Considerable fighting is going on at the western anchor of this front, where the Americans are driving down the main eastern road towards St. Lo. South of Carentan, an American column is driving from the north-east portion of Hommet. Another column is advancing south-west of La Haye. Once these columns link up, Lessay will be caught in a pincers and any Germans remaining north of it will be finally trapped.

No wonder in a broadcast to the army, General Montgomery should have said, "Well done, well done, indeed." "To-day the Allied armies fighting in Normandy have good ground for solid satisfaction. We have taken over 54,000 prisoners. We have given the enemy forces a tremendous pounding and we know from the prisoners what great losses they have suffered. We have enlarged and extended our lodgement area and in that area we are very firm and secure and we are developing our offensive operations in accordance with our plan."

Let us return to the Russian front, which is rapidly moving westwards from Pskov in the north to Pinsk in the south. The rate of Russian advance is now exceeding the fastest German "Blitz" either in France in 1940 or in Russia in 1941. The capture of Vilna is a blow in the solar plexus of the Wehrmacht. Apart from the frightful price it paid for its futile defence, its loss threatens to sever the entire Baltic front. General Lindemann had already begun to withdraw from the Baltic States into East Prussia but once the Red Army drives to the sea, his retreat will be cut off finally.

The victors of Vilna are already within 35 miles from the East Prussian frontier at a point south-east of Kovno. This represents exactly two days' march for the Red Army if it keeps up the pace of the last few weeks!

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"Namdev Masik"

At a meeting of the Working Committee of the "Namdev Samajonnati Conference" recently held at Poona, it has been again decided that Mr. Gopal Ramchandra Mhetras should continue the publication of "Namdev Masik", the organ of the Conference. The Magazine will as usual be published from Sholapur every month regularly. All correspondence, etc. regarding this should be addressed to the Editor at Sholapur.

CITY AND SUBURBS

To-day

Hindu: Ashad Vad 11, 2000.
Muslim: Rajjab 24, 1363.
Parsi: Behman, 16, 1313.
Sunrise: 7-10 a.m. Sunset: 8-19 p.m.
Hightide: 10-35, 22-07.
Lowtide: 3-40, 16-36.

To-day's Engagements

GUJARAT ART & MUSIC CIRCLE: At Laxmi Baug, New Bhatwadi, Girgaum Vocal Music by Vilayat Khan.

MARWADI STUDENTS' UNION: Ordinary general annual meeting at Marwadi Hindi Library, Narnarayan Temple, Kalbadevi Road, at 1 p.m.

UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS: Public lecture on "The Sevenfold Man", Jehangir Wadia Building, Flora Fountain, 6-15 p.m.

BOMBAY SPIRITUAL CENTRE: Discourse in Hindi by Sri Pandit Ramjee Panday, Professor of Sanskrit College, Madhav Baug on "Universal Peace and how to Achieve It", at 5-0 p.m.

CANARA WELFARE CRICKETERS: Third anniversary at 179, Bazar Gate Street, 2nd Floor, Fort, Bombay, at 9-15 a.m. (S. T.), under the presidentship of Sjt. K. S. Mandan.

BOMBAY KERALEEYA SAMAJ: Mr. K. C. Eapen will speak on "Unity is the need of the hour"; at 4 p.m. in the Pioneer Middle School, Telang Road, Matunga.

PEDNEKAR GOUD SARASWAT BRAHMIN SAMAJ: Congratulatory function at Orient High School, Kelewadi, at 4 p.m., in honour of successful candidates of our community in the Bombay University 1944 Exam.

SWAMI SAMBUDDHANANDA: At 10 a.m. (S. T.) at Mission Library Hall, Khar Road, in English on Bhagawat Geeta. At 6-30 p.m. (S. T.) at Mission Library Hall, Khar Road, in English on Teaching of Ramakrishna Paramahamsa.

GAUDIYA MISSION: Upadesak Pandit Sripad Nitaidas Brahmachari Bhakti Sastry Ragalankar on "Inevitable necessity of Satsanga", in English 6-30 p.m. Culliandas Building, Gowalia Tank Road. "Sankirtanam" will precede and follow.

BOMBAY COMMITTEE OF COMMUNIST PARTY: Public meeting 6 p.m., at the Blavatsky Hall, Chaupatty, Bombay, when Mr. Bhovani Sen, Secretary, Bengal Committee C. P. of I:, will speak on "Present Conditions in Bengal. Mr. B. T. Ranadive will preside.

CO-OP. REGISTRARS' CONFERENCE: The 14th conference of the Registrars of Co-operative Societies will be held at Bombay on the 31st July, 1st and 2nd August 1944 in the Convocation Hall of the University of Bombay. The Conference will meet on the 31st July at 11 a.m.

SHRI KRISHNA GITA PATHSHALA: Kavishwar Buva of Trimbak at Krishna Gita Pathshala Kolbhat Lane, near Kalbadevi Road, to-day, Ekadashi Kirtan from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.; THURSDAY, 20/7/44 Vedo-Utchar during the period of lunar eclipse, at 10-30 to 11-30 a.m. and also the "Parayan" of Gita at 11-30 a.m. to 1-30 p.m.

MARATHA ASSOCIATION, BOMBAY-NORTH: Debate on "Mixed Marriages are conducive to a society," at 10 a.m. in the premises of the Municipal Marathi School in Sardar Angre's 'Shivaji Bhuvan' (opp. Broadway Cinema). Mr. G. G. Dhanavate, will open the debate and Mr. S. L. Tawde will lead the opposition.

57 URBAN AREAS UNDER RATIONING.

Public Relations Officer (Rationing) writes:—"Twenty-seven more towns in Bombay Province have come under statutory rationing of foodgrains and sugar from July 16. This raises the total number of urban areas under rationing to 57."

RECLAMATION HOUSE COLLAPSE CASE.

Various charges against Mr. K. A. Noorani, Architect, Mr. R. M. Engineer, Contractor, Mr. Agha, R. C. C. Specialist and Mr. H. B Marla, Supervisor, the four accused in the Churchgate Reclamation House Collapse Case were read out before the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Esplanade Police Court, on Saturday.

Mr. N. P. Engineer, Advocate-General, along with Mr. R. K. Petigara, who conducted the prosecution requested the Court that the charge of "causing simple hurt" should be dropped". The Magistrate agreed to this.

The case was postponed to August 29.

Milk For Children

The Bombay Municipality announces that starting from Monday, July 17th, 200 centres will come into operation all over the city to register the particulars of all those children of under two years of age whose parents are desirous of taking advantage of the new Government scheme, to provide milk for the children of Bombay.

These centres will be open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. They are advertised by posters in English, Urdu and Mahratti which are hung outside these centres.

The Municipality has been able to spare its own clerks to help with the registration for one week only and it is therefore stressed that the public take full advantage of this arrangement during the course of this week.

DEFENCE BOND LUCKY NUMBERS

BOMBAY, Saturday.

The first draw for prizes for the Government of India Five-Year Interest-Free Prize Bonds came off at the C. J. Hall this forenoon. A large number of bond-holders including several ladies was present on the occasion.

At the outset Sir Hiralal J. Kania, the Chairman of the Supervising Committee gave a brief resume of the procedure that had to be followed in the drawing of the numbers. The procedure, was approved by the Government of India and was already notified in the Press.

The following are the numbers of the prize-winning Rs. 100 bonds in the order of their series with the prizes they have drawn:—

"A" Series—A 41369 Rs. 50,000. A 96172 and A 32081 Rs. 20,000 each: A 21223 and A 00354 Rs. 5,000 each.

"B" Series—B 99268 Rs. 50,000 B 77253 and B 40161 Rs. 20,000 each. B 06515 and B 43084 Rs. 5,000 each

"C" Series—C 68969 Rs. 50,000, C 16150 and C 45548 Rs. 20,000 each, C 21495 and C 72144 Rs. 5,000 each.

The following are the numbers of the prize-winning Rs. 10 bonds in the order of their series with the prizes they have drawn:—

"AA" Series—"AA" 97691 and "AA" 14503 Rs. 1,250 each: "AA" 20902 Rs. 2,500; "AA" 64659, "AA" 65597, "AA" 61983, "AA" 22635 and "AA" 35209 Rs. 500 each; "AA" 79059, "AA" 70098, AA 82792, AA 50866, AA 81422, AA 70077, AA 84022, AA 99443, AA 87147, AA 86160 Rs. 250 each.

"AB" Series—AB 75234 Rs. 2,500; AB 31250 and AB 05470 Rs. 1,250 each; AB 21553, AB 21382, AB 40197; AB 26875, and AB 78370 Rs. 500 each; AB 23537, AB 59993, AB 56360, AB 24766, AB 61464, AB 06824, AB 85384, AB 23200, AB 77953 and AB 98099 Rs. 250 each.

"AC" Series—AC 74273 Rs. 2,500; AC 28780 and AC 95287 Rs. 1,250; AC 47234, AC 92552, AC 66988, AC 17796, AC 64845 Rs. 500 each. AC 21773, AC 62911, AC 73039, AC 27529, AC 85968, AC 88363, AC 43142, AC 90025, AC 29911 and AC 93262 Rs. 250 each.

"AD" Series—19925 Rs. 2,500; AD 26623 and AD 10976 Rs. 1,250 each. AD 29241, AD 86180, AD 75141 AD 12337, and AD 87068 Rs. 500 each. AD 09095, AD 69319, AD 91348, AD 30951, AD 53470, AD 38842, AD 31003, AD 95556, AD 94876 and AD 66912 Rs. 250 each.

"AE" Series—AE 25651, Rs. 2,500. AE 21043 and AE 24489; Rs. 1,250 each. AE 86777, AE 38617, AE 14250, AE 04416 and AE 50128: Rs. 500 each. AE 44178, AE 47082, AE 91092, AE72680 AE77318, AE 60806, AE 46058, AE 53070 AE 51284 and AE 50484: Rs. 250 each.

"AF" Series—AF 0676 Rs. 2,500. AF 25039 and AF 18182: Rs. 1,250. AF 14776, AF 46293, AF 88230, AF 96735 and AF 85782: Rs. 500 each. AF 36799, AF 42237, AF 95872, AF 38607 AF 10339, AF 51849, AF93196, AF 28304, AF 18264 and AF 72656: Rs. 250 each.

"AG" Series—AG 63764: Rs. 2,500. AG 95746 and AG 86301: Rs. 1,250 each. AG 95914, AG 50152, AG 30506, AG 42922 and AG 22460: Rs. 500 each. AG 30107, AG 90409, AG 85555, AG 68442, AG 74511, AG 43978, AG 43570, AG 10512, AG 94489, AG 72879: Rs. 250 each.

"AH" Series—AH 63418: Rs. 2,500. AH 73222 and AH 13817: Rs. 1,250 each. AH 89018, AH 31681, AH 71110, AH 95210 and AH 95657: Rs. 500 each. AH 26735, AH 34665, AH 78676, AH 61042 AH 85329, AH 64475, AH 64814, AH 49716, AH 64776 and AH 85499: Rs. 250 each.

"AJ" Series—AJ 69735: Rs. 2,500 AJ 25249 and AJ 81758: Rs. 1,250 each. AJ 25718, AJ 10322, AJ 76442, AJ 99529 and AJ 98073: Rs. 500 each. AJ 75514, AJ 63366, AJ 66290, AJ 84982, AJ 95507, AJ 33406, AJ 42704, AJ 12510, AJ 05598 and AJ 87936; Rs. 250 each.

NEWSPRINT QUOTA FOR JOURNALS

Mr. Amritlal D. Sheth, President, Indian Languages Newspapers' Association has issued the following:—

Case of the journals and periodicals who have not got newsprint quotas received some consideration in the 'Paper Control Conference' held on 11th and 12th of July in Bombay, presided over by Sir Mohamud Akbar Hydari. The Government stated in the Conference that the journals and periodicals having no newsprint quotas and chosing to use newsprint in place of other paper will possibly be given newsprint quotas. It is now for such journals and periodicals to apply to the Paper Controller for their quotas. They might as well send their applications addressed to the Government through this Association who will carefully look into each case and will present it in a suitable manner to the Government. The journals and periodicals are therefore requested to immediately move in the matter and contact the Association for the purpose. The association has decided that they would receive all such cases upto the end of this month and present them to the Government in the first or second week of August. The Association also will help those who want the advice of the Association in person. Office of the Association (138 Medows Street, Fort, Bombay) would receive such representations between 3 to 6 p.m. any day except on Sunday.

A Juster View Of History

Prabhat Achievement In "Ramshastri"

BY T. V. P.

To most people who have not had the benefit of a regular school education—and they are the vast bulk of the population of this unhappy country—the history of the Mahrattas begins and ends with Shivaji. The mighty empire which was later reared up on the foundations laid by that great soldier of Freedom, is little known. That Empire, built with military prowess and retained for half-a-century with diplomatic skill and administrative ability, goes largely to the credit of the Peshwas, hereditary Prime Ministers of the Shivaji dynasty but virtual rulers.

The Wars they fought were numerous and frequent. Their military skill was dreaded as much by their enemies as it was trusted by their allies. No less important than their martial campaigns, however, was their exercise of the stabilising arts of peace. Peshwas like the elder Madhavrao, for instance, even while at battle camp, were never unmindful of the administration of justice or finance or the encouragement of education.

MADHAVRAO'S WILL

It is interesting to note that, in a will made out just before his death, Madhavrao stipulated large sums for religious endowment (religion and learning were then inseparable) and enjoined the liquidation of considerable personal property to defray the debts of the State. It is also interesting to note that, while he was actively leading a major campaign against Hyder Ali in the Carnatic, he used to keep himself in constant touch with Ram Shastri, the Chief Justice and head of the Department of Law.

Prabhat has undoubtedly done great service to Maharashtra, indeed to the whole of India, by making a motion picture biography of Ram Shastri, which will make hundreds of thousands of Indians for the first time aware that proud chapter of Indian History. The Studio's greater public service lies in the fact that it has not fallen prey to the common catch-phrase about "the glory that was Ind", but has given an extremely authentic historical perspective of the late eighteenth century Maharashtra and, through it a glimpse into our political antecedents.

Jyotsna Bhole in 'Alankar' at Opera House.

A WHOLESOME CORRECTIVE

Political subjection, and an educational system sedulously tuned up to it, have created an impression in the Indian mind that principles like personal freedom and democratic rights, the sacredness of Law and the supremacy of Equity, are a Western importation in this country. To that impression, a study of the history of the Peshwa regime would be a wholesome corrective. But opportunities for a proper study are rare; and our routine education certainly makes no provision for it. That is why, while the public at large sees the motion picture "Ram Shastri" with high appreciation the thoughtful among the audience regard it with a deep sense of gratitude.

"Alankar" At Opera House Today

Natyaniketan's "Alankar" with featured roles for Jyotsna Bhole, Pandit, Avinash, Mangala Ranade and others will be staged in a revised form to-day at 9-30 a.m. at Royal Opera House.

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SILHOUETTE COMPETITION

This competition should appeal to all readers as they stand a fair chance of getting a share in the Rs. 2,000 prizes. Two competitors got more than Rs. 750 each in the last competition.

The illustrations A, B, C, are well defined Silhouettes of certain objects. From each of these Silhouettes a part is cut off and reproduced (not necessarily in the same position), on the opposite page under numbers 1, 2, 3....You are to find out the parts belonging to the respective Silhouettes.

For example, a part of the object "H" is cut out and reproduced in other position in No. "8". The white dotted lines in "H" are given only to show exactly where the cuts were put to obtain the part shown in No. "8". Thus No. "8" is entered against "H" in the coupon. You may similarly fill in the rest of the coupon and send as many entries as you like with annas eight per coupon before Wednesday the 19th July, 1944 subject to and observing the following rules:—

1. Competitor's name and address must be written in full in block Capital letters on each and every entry coupon

2. Entries will be received at the counter during Office Hours from 10-30 a.m. to 6-30 p.m.

3. Solution of this Competition will be accepted only on our entry coupons. Not more than one number should be entered against each letter.

4 Entrance Fee can be remitted by Money Order or by Postal Order or by Postage Stamps. Insufficient amount will disqualify all the entries.

5 All entries must be received in this Office by the last Post on the closing date given below. Any entry received after this date will not be included in the competition.

6. Corrected of mutilated entries or those having more than one number entered against any letter will be disqualified.

7. In case of ties, the Management reserves the right to distribute the Prize Money among the winning competitors in any manner they like.

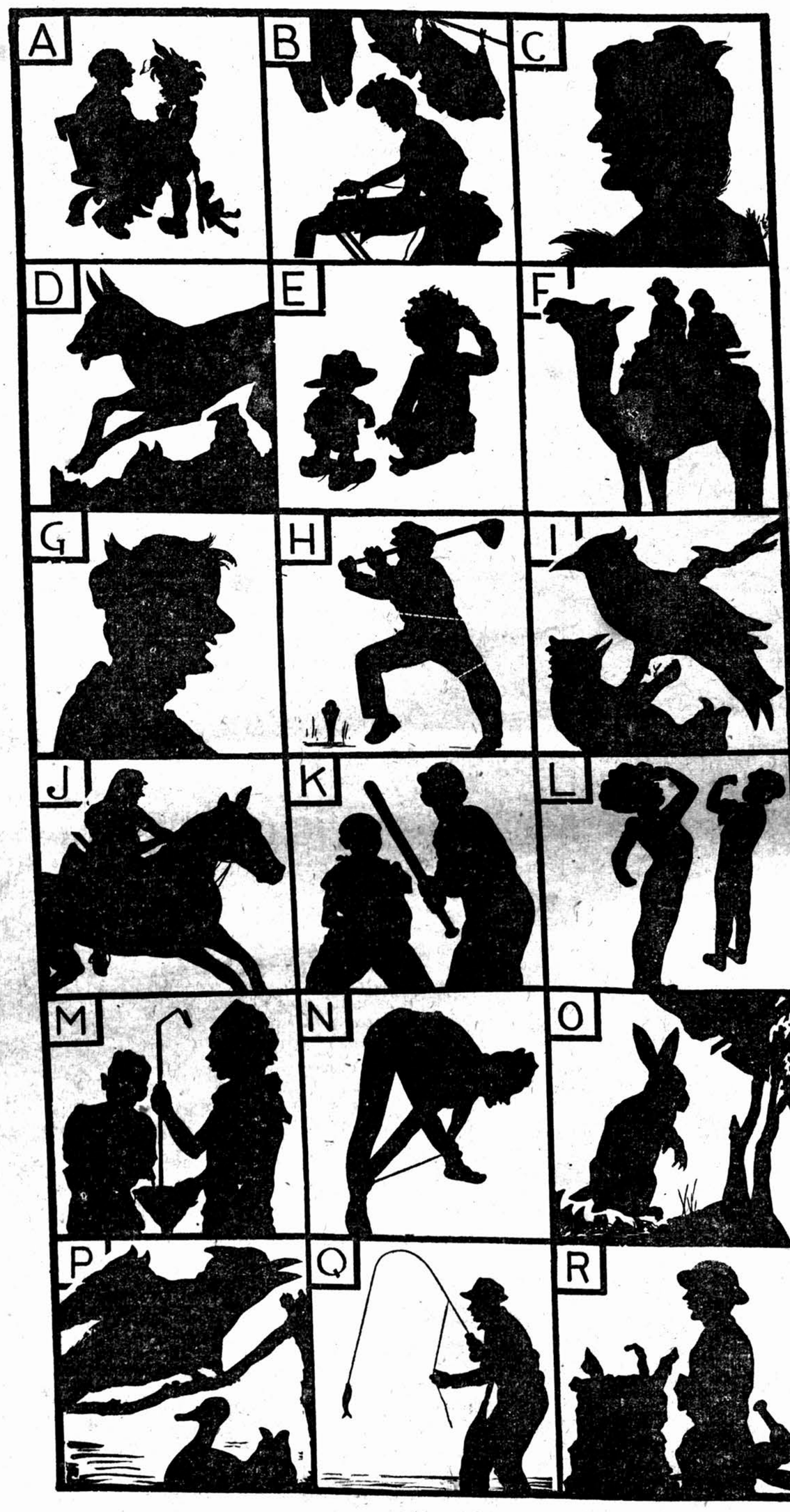
8. No responsibility is accepted for any entry coupon mislaid lost or delayed Proof of posting will not be accepted as proof of delivery or receipt

9 In no case will any entrance fee or money sent with entry coupons be refunded or credited to another competition or account. No communication will be accepted and replied to if it is sent along with the entry coupon If any correspondence is sent along with the entries Competition Department will not be held responsible in any way

10. This Competition is run by the Bombay Chronicle Co., Ltd., but readers of the "Bombay Samachar" and the "Bombay Sentinel" can also take part in it. This Competition has been licensed by the Collector of Bombay under Licence No 6 dated 12th May 1941.

11. Under NO circumstances correspondence will be entered into or interviews granted in connection with this competition

12 All Competitors enter this competition on the distinct understanding that the Competition Manager's decision is absolutely final and legally binding in all matters pertaining to this Competition This is an express condition of entry.



Entries by Registered post should be addressed as under:—
COMPETITION MANAGER,
The Bombay Chronicle Co., Ltd.,
Red House,
Parsee Bazaar Street,
Fort, BOMBAY.

Entries by Ordinary Post should be addressed as under:—
Post Box No. 706 G.P.O. Bombay.

CLOSING DATE WEDNESDAY 19TH JULY 1944

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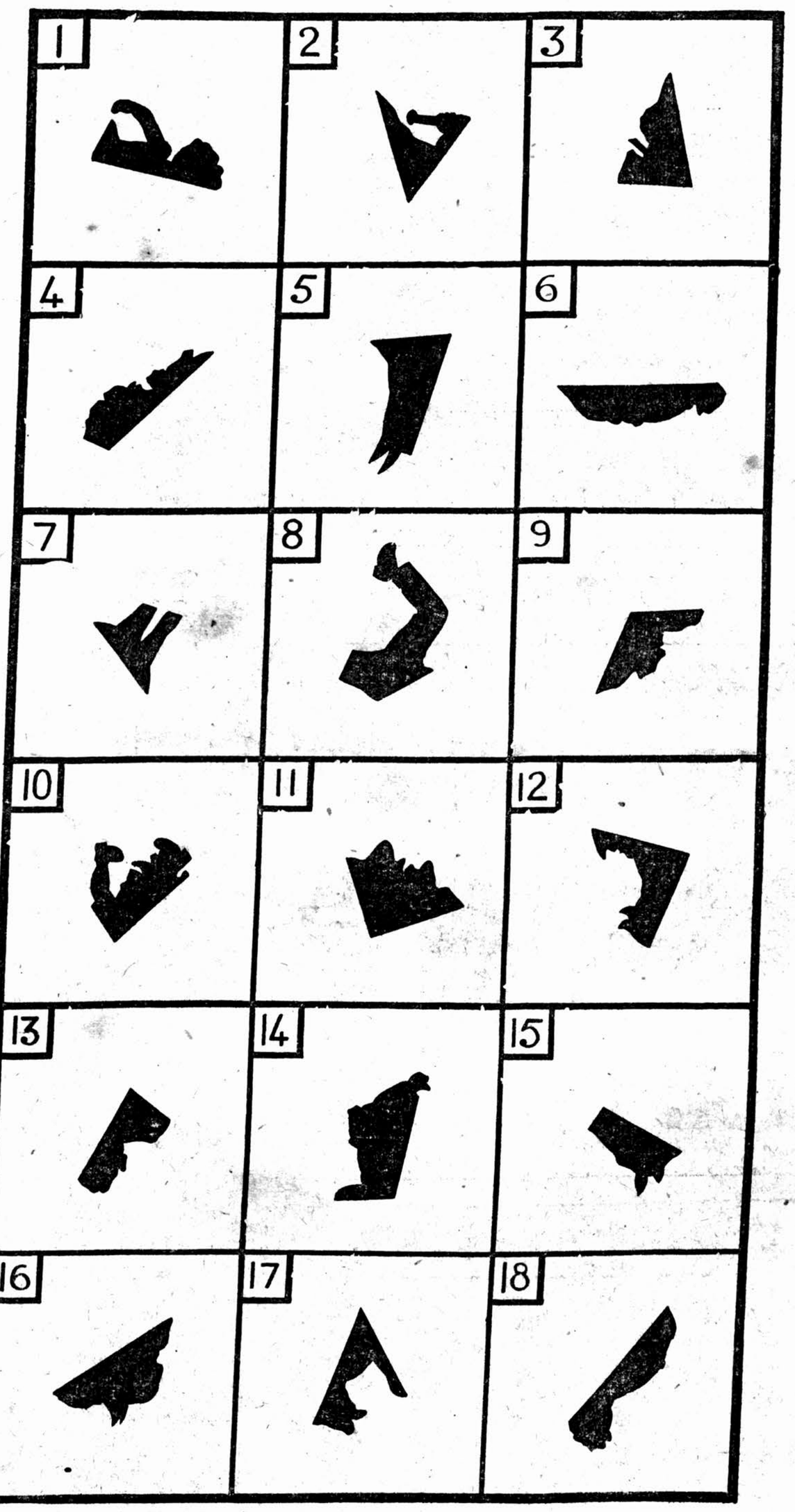

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RAJLAXMI'S SPECTACULAR HIT!
Mahakavi
Kalidas
PAHARI, SNEHPRABHA, VANMALA
Daily: 4, 7, & 10 p.m.
KRISHNA Sat., Sun. at 1 p.m.
Dubash Theatre

9th WEEK
RANJIT'S
Bansari
CHARLIE, ISHWARLAL,
Director: JAYANT DESAI
OPERA HOUSE
Daily 4 7 and 10 p.m.
Sat Sun. Matinee 1-30
ZENANA SHOW
ON WEDNESDAY AT 1-30

PUBLIC NOTICES

THIS IS AN ANNOUNCEMENT AND NOT A PROSPECTUS

Consent of the Central Government has been obtained for issuing further shares under Defence of India Rule 94-A. It must be distinctly understood that in giving the consent the Government of India do not take any responsibility for the financial soundness of any schemes or for the correctness of any of the statements made or opinions expressed with regard to them.

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THE STORY OF YOUR DREAMS
With Your Favourite Stars.

SADHONA BOSE and SURENDRA
(They've never been better) with Dances and Songs which will stir the very depths of your being.

PAIGAM
(Directed by Surendra Desai)
An Amar Pictures' Production: A United Film Distributors' Release.
THE ONE PICTURE OF THE YEAR YOU SHOULD NOT MISS!

CITY MARKETS

BOMBAY, July 15.

BULLION.—Yesterday London Gold was unchanged at £8/8/0. Dollar Sterling cross rate was 4.02-1/2 to 4.03-1/2d London and 4.03 at New York. London Spot and forward Silver quotations were unchanged at 23-1/2d and New York Spot Silver was quoted at 44-3/4 cents. Yesterday the local market was active on short covering and even today there was further covering which hardened quotations. All foreign reports of possible sales of American Silver in open market induced some outsiders to go short and now again they find scarcity of contracts and prices firmed up on the holding movement of bulls who are benefited by weekly discounts Silver opened at Rs. 132/4 and advance to Rs. 132/12 and later steadied at Rs. 132/8. Ready Silver was quoted at a premium of Rs. 3/4 at Rs. 135/12. Forward Gold opened at Rs. 75 and improved to Rs. 75/1, and later steadied at Rs. 75 Ready Gold was quoted at Rs. 75/4 and Sovereigns were placed at Rs. 51/6.

The market was very steady in the absence of any selling and forward Silver was quoted at Rs. 132/12. Closing quotations were as under Ready Silver Rs. 135/10 Forward Rs. 132/10. Ready Gold Rs. 75/4 and forward Rs. 75.

RAJKOT, JULY 15.—Silver Rs. 125/13. Gold Rs. 74/6. Groundnut Oil Rs. 16/10/6.

JAMNAGAR, JULY 15.—Silver Rs. 125/2. Gold Rs. 74/5. Groundnut Oil Rs. 19/3/6.

COTTON.—The local cotton market opened today at Rs. 416 for September delivery and improved to Rs. 416/12. While July was quoted at Rs. 407. The final decision on the fixation of prices will be known after the close of the market as representatives of cotton trade are to meet at 3 p.m. There was light trading.

Later on the market was quiet and under scattered selling September quietened at Rs. 416/4. The market finally closed at 3 p.m. as under:—

I. C. C. July	404 0 0
I. C. C. September	416 4 0

COTTON PARITY.—Indian Cotton September Contract is 558 cent points below New York October at Exchange rate 331.

HIGH AND LOW COTTON PRICES
Bombay, July 14.

	High.	Low.	Close.
July	405	405	405
September	417/12	415/12	416

NEW YORK COTTON PRICES
DECLINE ON LIQUIDATION

Cotton irregular. Prices sagged on belated liquidation of July and hedges in distants with emphasis on the relative fewness of crop complaints, despite dryness and continued Allied successes and no fresh developments in connection with the enforcement of the Price Control Act; then steadied on trade support and orderly last minute evening-up of July, but prices finally sagged on increased liquidation and hedges on the evident need for a fresh stimulus and the approach of the usual week-end uncertainties. The market closed steady.

NEW YORK COTTON
New York, July 14.

October 21.63—10, December 21.45—12, January 21.40—08, March 21.30—10, May 21.11—12, October highest 21.73 (10 a.m.) lowest 21.63—10 (2-56 p.m.), Middling Spot 22.48—17.

NOON CALL
July 22.24, October 21.69, December 21.52.

NEW ORLEANS COTTON
New York, July 14.

October 21.68—11, December 21.52—09 January 21.49—08, March 21.38—08, May 21.17—10, July 21.00, Middling Spot 21.70—10.

INDIAN STOCK EXCHANGE
Bombay, July 15.

Tata Ordinary 426, Tata Deferred 2265, Indian Iron 42/6, Steel Corpn. of Bengal 36/2, Bombay Dyeing 1910, Central India 421/4, Century 900, Gokak 330, Kohinoor 627/8, Simplex 255/8, Andhra Valley 1895, Tata Hydro 205, Tata Power 1905, Associated Cement 231, Belapur 245, Bombay Burma (Old) 480

A.-I. Urdu Congress

Preparations for holding the inaugural session of All-India-Urdu Congress, commencing on 21st July are complete. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Sir Abdul Qadir Dr. Abdul Hay, Mr. Brelvi of "Bombay Chronicle", Prof. Rahib Ahmed Siddiqi, Mr. Sajjad Zaheer of Progressive Writers' Association and Major Shamsudin, Education Minister of Bhawalpur, are to preside over sectional meetings. The Reception Committee request timely intimation of arrival of intending delegates and guests.

Bombay Rainfall

The total rainfall recorded in the city upto nine hours on the 12th July is 42.43 inches i.e. 12.95 inches above normal.

Rainfall for 24 hours on the same day was 4.68 inches.

The max. tem. on the 14th was 82.6deg. i.e. 3.0deg. below normal.

The minimum temp. was 74.3deg. i.e. 2deg. below normal.

MENSO
MENSO GOVT. REGD.
Harmless surest remedy for irregularity of any cause use not in pregnancy causes miscarriage LIBERTY each Rs. 2. CATARACTO without operation cures cataract. All eye-diseases—Rs. 2 Dr. C. Bhattacharjee 120, Ashutosh Mukerjee Road, Calcutta. Popular Pharmacy, Bomi Pharmacy, Bombay.

"Boots Or No Boots"—A Question For Indian Footballers

By J. C. MAITRA

With the outbreak of the monsoon the question of "boots or no boots" for Indian players has cropped up again. I have written so many times on the subject during the last twenty years that I thought it would not be necessary for me to repeat the arguments for and against over again. But there are people who prefer to raise the question as a fresh issue and therefore it is necessary for me to meet the arguments advanced by them. Should our players wear boots or play bare-footed? Europeans and peoples of their way of thinking declare that Indians must take to boots wholesale and condemn bare booted play altogather. Football cannot be played without boots opines "Bobby" Talyarkhan in the columns of the "Bombay Sentinel", just as you cannot play tennis with a hockey stick and hockey with a badminton racket —forgetting that barefooted teams have defeated some of the best booted sides in the past—and not distant past—in Bombay and elsewhere.

A RIDICULOUS COMPARISON

I have never heard of such a ridiculous comparison in my life. If barefooted football was like playing tennis with a hockey stick, how on earth barefooted Indian players managed to beat reputed European sides well shot with boots? It is clear that Bobby's enthusiasm for boots carried him away beyond the borders of reason. Let us concede therefore that barefooted teams, given a dry ground, con defeat the best of booted sides. I admit that there is a big proviso in it—that they must have a dry ground. Still it must be freely acknowledged that barefooted players can get the better of booted players given fair playing conditions. Then barefooted football is not so bad as playing tennis with a hockey stick!

A SALUTARY LESSON

But you cannot always have fair weather conditions. Football is a monsoon game and therefore wet conditions present themselves more frequently than fair ones. Thus the barefooted footballers are at a disadvantage more often than not. Mohun Bagan and several other leading Indian clubs have learnt it to their cost. The I.F.A. Shield have slipped away from their hands many times just because the finals were played on wet grounds and their players were not properly shod for such contingencies. Wisdom dawned on them at last and they began to train their players with boots on. They used boots when the ground was wet and played barefooted when the ground was dry. The result of this far sighted experiment was seen in the Mahomedan Sporting of Calcutta sweeping the major soccer board of India a few years ago.

DUAL METHOD MUST CONTINUE

In the light of this successful experiment who can have the hardihood to say that this dual policy is foolish? It will be admitted on all hands that on a dry ground the barefooted player is the master of the situation against his booted rival. Why should he not take full advantage of it whenever he can? He should do so by all means. Therefore barefooted play must continue to be an important factor in the armoury of the nippy Indian players. At the same time they must guard themselves against the foul weather. So they must practise with boots also. In fact they must be as good with boots on as they are barefooted. Then they will not have any difficulty in disposing of the booted sides.

INTERNATIONAL CONTESTS

My European friends tell me that a barefooted Indian side would be worse than useless if it is sent abroad, because Soccer is played in Europe during winter when the ground conditions there are much worse than we see here. I do realise that and therefore I insist that every first class player who aspires to play in the national and international field must be a top class booted as well as o barefooted player. This dual policy has been generally accepted by all the leading players and clubs alike. Those who have not are retarded in their march of progress and have failed to reach the forepont of Indian football even though they may be masters of the barefooted style of play. Therefore I repeat that evrey player and every team aspiring to teach the top of the world must learn to excel himself in the booted order of play

INITIAL HANDICAP

Apart from the question of advantage given to barefooted players on a dry ground, there is the cost of boots which most of the Indian players find erceedingly difficult to meet. It must be remembered that the well-to-do class of people do not play football on account of the injuries and dangers involved in the play. It is the poorer classes who rarely have the good fortune of wearing boots take to football. Barefooted play therefore come to them naturally. They can fly or direct the ball with barefeet as cleverly as one can with bare hands. In fact in the matter of ball control they are much better than the booted player can even be. The European player actually marvels at the artistry produced by the barefooted footballer.

WORTH THE RISK

It is only when the booted players fail to cope with the speed and elusiveness of the barefooted ones that they try to injure their feet. Nine times out of ten they fail in this too. Even when injured the barefooted player does not mind but continues to play as best as he can. It is argued by the critics of barefooted play that if the players themselves invite injury upon themselves nobody can help it. In their own interest they should therefore give up this injurious style of play. Everybody will admit the soundness of this argument. Those who are afraid should not play with bare feet at all. It is only those who have confidence on their ability to evade their opponents' boots should appear unshod in a first class match against a booted side.

DUTY OF COLLEGES AND CLUBS

It must be remembered that when a player has mastered the barefooted variety of play, he does not find much difficulty in mastering the booted style also. In fact he can then play as cleverly with boots on as he could with bare feet. The only defect he owns is the loss of speed. I have not the least doubt in my mind that with the increasing popularity of football in India, the dual style of play will be adopted everywhere. It is up to the Colleges, who can well afford the expense if they do not spend all their income from sport fees on Cricket, to help their students with boots. With their assistance our players may acquire the booted habit even before they join any club. Then it must be the duty of every club—I mean of course the leading clubs—to provide their players with boots. It is worthy of note that Indian genius has already designed a type of boots best suited to the Indian style of play.

MIXED COMBINATION

In this connection I would point out that there are prominent Indian players like K. Bhattacharjee who captained the Indian team which toured Australia a few years ago, who suggest that even on a dry ground some of the members of a barefooted team should be booted. For instance, a booted inside forward, a half back and a back would be very useful against a booted side—a sort of a spearhead in the attacking line and a safety valve in the defence. Rashad of the W.I.A.A. and Joveniano of the Tatas may serve the first purpose well if they do not roam about the field needlessly. The booted Humphreys and Solomon act as towers of strength to the Automobile defence. Their examples may well be copied by other leading sides. However, let us be clear on this point that no player or club can hope to rise to the topmost ladder of national or international football unless they adopt the dual policy.

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Sevagram Waits For Bapu

(Continued From Page 3)

Exactly four miles from Maganwadi and six from the dreary-looking Wardha railway station, was this model village of only three huts designed by Gandhiji. Placards in Hindi hanging from bamboo fencing on the fringe of the village, explained the ways of keeping the surroundings clean. There was a novel though simple design for everything including cow-sheds. Tins for throwing waste were tucked away every few feet. Inside a bamboo fencing which served as the boundary of the village were three huts. The outline of a charkha embossed on the mud wall gave a distinctive touch to one of the huts. I was busy examining this crude art on the wall with some curiosity when I heard a voice from inside the hut: "That is my handiwork. I took great pains to make that wheel look quite round but I failed." That was Miraben, trusted attendant of Gandhiji and a conscientious vegetable-grower at Sevagram, rearing choice greens for Bapu's salad. She was standing at the door of the hut with her head bent slightly to avoid a knock.

"Bapu is out in the fields for a stroll", she said, "you can see the hut if you wish."

Three-Room Hut

A file of the "Indian Social Reformer" lying on a low table greeted my eye as I entered a small room where Gandhiji usually worked, sitting cross-legged on a gadi. A writing pad with his famous scrawl, loose sheets of the "Harijan", a copy of the Gita, a salt bottle and a few crude wooden spoons were the other articles huddled on the little table. There were newspapers on the floor. The simple parlour provided just enough sitting space for two visitors. Next to this was a small room a kitchen but with practically no utensils An open verandah with the roof of mud tiles completed the residence of Gandhiji. A long, wooden cot which sloped at one end and a tin bath tub, both designed by a naturopath were lying in the compound Gandhiji lay on the cot while taking massage. The tub was being used for bathing in water of different temperatures. Both these were needed during a period of recuperation after frequent ill-health with erratic blood pressure.

Turning away from this hut, I had a pleasant surprise in the adjoining 'jhopdi' where I found Kasturba busy cleaning some wheat. She was attending to the kitchen. Prof. Bhansali sat cross-legged on the verandah picking neem leaves and cutting Til cakes into bits for his lunch.

A fruit and vegetable garden with a typically village-like well in front was full of life as some of the Sevagramites worked away with gardening implements in the drizzling weather.

That was Sevagram of 1935. To-day it is a fairly big village with room enough for the headquarters of the Talimi Sangh conducted by Mr. Aryanayakam, the offices of the Goseva Sangh, a school, and a Post and Telegraph office The irregular pathway leading to the village has given place to a regular road which hundreds tread every day, during their pilgrimage to the hut that enshrines the world's greatest apostle of non-violence.

A few of the trusted lieutenants of Gandhiji are keeping the kitchen fires burning at Sewagram But all their thoughts are with their beloved Bapu. Without Bapu Sewagram is without its soul And the day he will come back and settle down to his routine is looked forward to with eagerness not merely at Sewagram but all over India; because that may mean the end of an era of bitter strife, anguish the dawn of a new era of peace and hope.

COTTON PRICES

Floor Price Reduced

BOMBAY, Saturday.

At the meeting of the Cotton Committee of the Textile Control Board the question of fixing floor and ceiling prices for the next year's cotton crop was discussed. A notice was issued and pasted in the East India Cotton Association to the effect that the Government proposes to reduce the floor price from Rs. 400 to Rs. 350. The ceiling price of Rs. 550 remains unchanged. The Board of Directors of the East India Cotton Association will meet on Monday at 3 p.m. to consider the Government decision.

The Government of India have fixed following floors and ceilings for cotton during the 1944-45 season:—

Fine Jarilla staple length 3/4" ceiling prices Rs. 550; floor prices Rs. 350. Fine Broach staple length 3/4" ceiling prices Rs. 550; floor prices Rs. 350; Fine Surti staple length 7/8" ceiling prices Rs. 645; floor prices Rs. 445; Fine R.G. 4F Punjab/American staple length 3/4" ceiling prices Rs. 570; floor prices Rs. 370; Fine R.G. LSS Punjab/American staple length 13/16" ceiling prices Rs. 600; floor prices Rs. 400; Fine R.G. 289F Punjab/American staple length 7/8" ceiling prices Rs. 660; floor prices Rs. 460; Fine S.G. 4F Punjab/American staple length 3/4" ceiling prices Rs. 590; floor prices Rs. 390; Fine S.G. LSS Punjab/American staple length 13/16" ceiling prices Rs. 625; floor prices Rs. 425; Fine S.G. 289F Punjab/American staple length 7/8" ceiling prices Rs. 685; floor prices Rs. 485; Fine R.G. 4F Sind/American staple length 3/4" ceiling prices Rs. 570; flior prices Rs. 370; Fine R.G. LSS Sind/American staple length 13/16" ceiling prices Rs. 600; floor prices Rs. 400; Fine R.G. 289F Sind/American staple length 7/8" ceiling prices Rs. 655; floor prices Rs. 455; Fine R.G. N.T. Sind/American staple length 7/8" ceiling prices Rs. 645; floor prices Rs. 445; Fine S.G. 4F Sind/American staple length 3/4" ceiling prices Rs. 590; floor prices Rs. 390; Fine S.G. LSS Sind/American staple length 13/16" ceiling prices Rs. 625; floor prices Rs. 425; Fine S.G. 289F Sind/American staple length 7/8" ceiling prices Rs. 680; floor prices Rs. 480; Fine S.G. N.T. Sind/American staple length 7/8" ceiling prices Rs. 670; floor prices Rs. 470; Fine Dhollerah staple length 3/4" ceiling prices Rs. 520; Fine Kalagin staple length 3/4" ceiling prices Rs. 520; Fully good Bengal Deshi ceiling prices Rs. 315; Fine Oomra Deshi ceiling prices Rs 375.

CONGRESS DETENUS TO BE RELEASED?

(From Our Corespondent)

AHMEDABAD, July 15.

It is reliably understood all Congress detenus will be released within the end of this month. Orders of releases of Sjt. Morarji Desai and Sjt. Kanayalal of Surat have been issued

RELEASE OF DETENUS

JUBBULPORE, July 14.

Pundit Deva Dutt Tewari, a security prisoner detained in the Central Jail, Jubbulpore, was released on medical grounds.

Security prisoners, Pundit Ram Dayal Chaturvedy, Pundit Braj Beharilal Pandi and Pundit Premshankar L. Bhagat, M.L.A., returned to the jail custody on the expiry of the parole granted to them.

Messrs. Chaturvedy and Pande had moved the Government to grant further extension in the parole given to them, but their requests were rejected and the parole of Pundit R. D. Chaturvedy was curtailed by five days.

Security prisoner Shri Shankar Lal Chowdhury M.L.A., (U.P.) detained in the Seoni sub-jail was released on medical grounds.

Students Jailed

MADRAS, July 15.

For the offence of being in possession of prejudicial literature two city students were sentenced to-day to two months' simple imprisonment each by the Third Presidency Magistrate under the Defence of India Rules.—A. P.

Frontier M. L. A. Released

PESHAWAR, July 15.

Mr. Jamna Das, M. L. A. (Congress), has been released. He is the third M. L. A. to be released out of the ten who are under detention. According to well-informed quarters two more M. L. A.'s are expected to be released shortly.—A. P.

Surat Congressman Released

SURAT, July 15.

Mr. Kanhaiyalal Nanabhai Desai, President of the Surat District Congress Committee, has been released unconditionally from the Nasik Jail yesterday evening. Mr. Desai was arrested in August 1942.—A. P.

SOVIET DRIVE TO OPEN WARSAW ROAD

Twin Attacks From Tarnopol And Lutsk: German Lines Taken Back Several More Miles West Of Pinsk

LONDON, July 15.

The German News Agency to-day said that the Russians yesterday launched a large scale attack between Tarnopol and Lutsk.

The agency added: "The weight of the attack was in the area northwest of Tarnopol. The Soviet had assembled a powerful force consisting of many rifle divisions and supported by strong tank forces on a relatively small frontal sector. The attack was preceded by carefully placed gunfire barrage lasting several hours. —

The German Overseas News Agency today quoted a Berlin military spokesman as stating "Lvov is the immediate objective of the twin drive from Tarnopol and Lutsk. West of Pinsk, the German lines have been taken back several more miles."

Reuter's special correspondent in Moscow cables:—

Marshal Rokossovsky's troops—victors of Pinsk—are today throwing the Germans back along the railway towards Brest Litovsk, "key to the Warsaw Road." Fighting is still over marshy and humid ground. Steamy earth, a fierce sun beating down and myriads of stinging mosquitoes, which have been stirred up from stagnant pools as the Russians move over narrow marsh tracks, are reminecent of the Far Eastern war. Red Army men, streaming with perspiration from soon after dawn and splashed from head to foot with caked and drying mud, are manhandling heavy guns through this sort of country.

Further north the Russians have almost reached the outskirts of Grodno, the southern anchor of the Niemen Line guarding the eastern approaches to East Prussia.—Reuter.

PRINCES BATTLE OVER MERGER SCHEME

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Problems concerning the states, particularly the question of attachment of small states to the bigger ones, it is understood, were discussed at a meeting of the Chamber of Princes at the Taj to-day. The attachment scheme has figured for the past two days in the Committee of the States' Ministers. The decision of this Committee is in favour of the scheme. Some of the Princes, it is understood, have expressed themselves in favour of it too. The final decision of the Committee of Princes is not yet known.

The Princes Chamber discussed today the industrial policy of the Government of India. The Committee took "a serious view" of the Government's policy so far as it affects the legitimate industrial development in the States and the economic interest of their people. The Chamber decided to place its views before Government

POST-WAR AVIATION.

Post-war plans for civil aviation in India were among the subjects discussed by the Princes. The recommendations made by the Committee of Ministers in this connection met with the approval of the Princes to a large extent.

A decision was taken by the Committee to set up a Public Relations Bureau on behalf of the States to remove the misunderstanding about States and to generally enlighten the people.

The Nawab of Bhopal who presided put forward a proposal that the "annual sessions of the Chamber of Princes should be utilised to organise all India States conferences on social services and beneficent departments such as education, health, agriculture, industrial development, raising of the standards of living etc.

Sixteen Princes attended the Committee meeting. The deliberations will be resumed on Sunday morning.

U. S. Planes Bomb Guam And Truk

WASHINGTON, July 15: The U. S. Navy Department announces that carrier based planes attacked Guam and Rota islands on Thursday. Army planes attacked Truk atoll on Wednesday. Other planes bombed and strafed Marshall Islands on Tuesday.

More Destitutes In Hospitals

CALCUTTA, July 15

Twenty-three sick destitutes were admitted to Calcutta hospitals on July 13. There were four deaths and three such cases were discharged from these hospitals on that day.—A. P

JAP REARGUARD RE-CONTACTED

Scattered Fighting Continues Around Ukhrul

KANDY, July 15.

The following is the full text of to-day's SEAC COMMUNIQUE:—

"MANIPUR HILLS: Our forces pushing after the main body of Japanese from the Ukhrul area, have recontacted their rearguard at Maoku, ten miles south-east of Ukhrul, on the track to Humine, exit from the Manipur Hills to the Chindwin. After routing the enemy a mile north of Maoku, our troops were halted by a strong road block covered by automatic and mortar fire. Operations to clear it are in progress.

"Scattered fighting still goes on around Ukhrul as the last Japanese stragglers are hunted down. Enemy losses mount rapidly and as the retreat progresses he is abandoning more of his artillery. Atleast twelve guns ranging from medium artillery to anti-tank guns have been taken.

"The Japanese have evacuated further positions seven miles east of Palel. In the Bishenpur sector, however, Kha Khunou village is still strongly held.

"NORTH BURMA: At Myitkyina Chinese troops supported by American aircraft gained three hundred yards in a heavy attack on the north-west sector of the town. In the hills west of Taungni British Chindits overcame two trail blocks and attacked a strong position in the Khawan area. West Africans continued mopping up south of Pyindaw.

"AIR: On 13th and 14th July R.A.F. and I.A.F. aircraft successfully bombed and strafed positions in the Ningthoukhong area, south of Bishenpur. On the 14th fighter bombers attacked Tiddim and Tonzang and a dump area twelve miles north-west of Tonzang. Two enemy tanks were damaged by fighters six miles south of Bishenpur and transport if the Tiddim road was heavily strafed.

In North Burma U.S.A.A.F. fighters and bombers on the 13th July destroyed a railway bridge to the south of Mawl and two direct hits demolished the centre of another to the north of Mohnyin. Gun positions and concentrations at Myitkyina and Hopin were successfully attacked.

Long range U.S.A.A.F. fighters again struck at Lashio airfield. Two aircraft on the ground were damaged and hangar was set on fire.

"Widespread rains again restricted operations. No Allied aircraft is missing."—A. P

FLYING BOMBS OVER SOUTH ENGLAND

LONDON, July 15.

Flying bombs were over the southern counties during the night, causing damage and casualties.—Reuter.

R. A. F. Attacks Flying Bomb Installations

An Air Ministry 'communique' today said: "Last night Halifaxes and Lancasters of the R.A.F. Bomber Command attacked flying bomb installations in northern France. Squadrons of mosquitos made an attack on Hanover. Mines were laid in enemy waters. One of our aircraft is missing."

KARACHI, July 15: The first meeting of the Central Consumers' Council recently constituted by Government of India is to meet in New Delhi on July 17 and 18. The council consists of 25 members representing consumer interests all over the country.—A. P.

The "Bombay Chronicle" invites original contributions, cartoons and topical photographs for the "Bombay Chronicle Weekly" from its readers. Short stories and humorous articles will be particularly appreciated. Mss should be typewritten and between 1,500 and 2,000 words in length.

All contributions and photographs which are accepted for publication will be paid for handsomely.

Rejected contributions will be returned only when accompanied by a stamped and self-addressed envelope. No correspondence can be entertained regarding this.

PRESS CLUB IN NEW DELHI

Proposal Discussed By Indian & Eastern Newspaper Society

NEW DELHI, July 15.

Meetings of the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society were held here with Mr. Devadas Gandhi, President, in the chair, on the 14th and 15th July, at which the following were present:—

Messrs. H. W. Smith (Times of India), K. Srinivasan (Hindu), Tushar Kanti Ghosh (Amrita Bazar Patrika), W. J. B. Walker (Statesman), J. K. Cowley (Statesman), B. N. Chopra (Pioneer), P. L. Sondhi (Tribune) M. N. Cama (Bombay Chronicle), A. Taylor (Mail), N. C. Ghosh (Jugantar), S. Das Gupta (Ananda Bazar Patrika), P. D. Sharma (Indian Express and Dhinamani), S. C. Majumdar (Hindustan Standard), S. Sadanand (Free Press Journal), Srikrishna (Andhra Patrika), S. V. Kothari (Sind Observer), H. R. Moharay (Samyukta Karnataka), C. R. Srinivasan (Swadesamitran), S. S. Vasan (Ananda Vikatan), and Asu De, Secretary.

Amongst other business, the position arising from the proposed modification of the Newsprint Control Order by the Government was considered and a scheme for the establishment of a Press Club in New Delhi was discussed.

Members were entertained to lunch on both dates by the "Hindustan Times" and the "Statesman" and to afternoon tea by Mr Asu De.—A.P.

SIKAR, July 14: Third Sikar District Political Conference will be held under auspices of the Jaipur Praja Mandal during Dashara holidays.

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LATEST COMMERCIAL

NEW YORK COTTON (OCTOBER).

New York, July 15.

Previous Closing	21.63
To-day's Opening	21.62
Difference	—1
To-day's Closing	21.64
Difference	+1

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CALCUTTA STOCK EXCHANGE,

CALCUTTA, July 15.

SHARE MARKET: The market continued its upward trend round all sections with full vigour and activity.

DR. B. N. DESAI, L. M & S HYROCELE SPECIALIST
formerly of Wadifalia. Surat.
WITHOUT OPERATION
Cures HYDROCELE at one sitting in 10 minutes. Now permanently in Bombay in Sardar Griha Hotel, Crawford Market.
Details with certificates can be had on sending 4 annas stamps

SPECIFIC FOR POST-WAR DEPRESSION

"THE POST-WAR DEPRESSION & THE WAY OUT", By Principal B. R. Shenoy. Kitabistan, Allahabad. Price Rs. 3/-.

The disastrous depression which followed a short boon at the close of the last Great War is likely to be forgotten when plans are being formulated, at the present time, for post-war economic development in India, as in other countries. Principal Shenoy has, therefore, done well in pursuit of financial policies which are apt to produce devastating effects on national economics. He has first offered a theoretical exposition of the problems of near and post-war finance and shown how dangers of depression arise and how they may be countered. At the end of the war, there will be a wild rush for consumer goods and also great activity in the production of instrumental goods. The national economy cannot possibly stand the strain of this huge double pressure and steps will have to be taken to regulate and control investment and supply of commodities. The drastic remedies preferred by Principal Shenoy to prevent the onset of a depression are not practicable as he is himself probably aware. The war cannot be run on State income from taxation alone; nor can public debt be avoided. Repudiation of debt cannot be thought of and a capital levy is not likely to be very effective. Failing these measures, says the author, "the only way of ecape would be to continue, for the duration of a planned period of reconstruction, the system of economic regimentation which had been developed during the war." This is a policy which Governments will find the most practicable and suitable. The book affords a good insight into the intricate question of the nature and the effects of war finance.

V. G. K.

"BUSINESS AND BUSINESSMEN"

By C. M. Srinivasan

10, Mount Road, MADRAS.

This is a small booklet dealing with a subject on which volumes could be written. However, the author has within a small compass, done good service in bringing to the notice of younger generations of this country the advantages commanded by business and industrial careers. He has also dealt with a very small number from among the leading business and industrial magnates of our great country. The book is one which the younger generation may well read with advantage.

"S.R.D."

TELUGU PUBLICATIONS

"GANDHIJI" Published by the cultural Book Depot.

Perambur, Madras Price 0-8-0. This is an adaptation into Telugu of the writings of Mr. Louis Fischer the well-known American author and journalist who stayed with Gandhiji at Sevagram for a week in 1942. The material for the book is also provided from Mr. Fischer's "a week with Gandhiji" written for the American public and also from his articles contributed to the "Nation" of New York.

"IN SOVIET RUSSIA": published by the cultural Book Depot, Madras Price 0-8-0.

This topical publication is packed with facts and figures about the U.S.S.R. gleaned from George Bernard Shaw and other authors.

SHIVAJI

SHIVAJI THE GREAT. By Dr. Balkrishna. Parts III and IV. 1939 & 1940. (Arya Book Depot, Kolhapur).

Dr. Balkrishna published the first part of this biography and history of Shivaji in 1930, and the second part in 1932, which were termed volume I. Then he published the Vol. II containing the third part in 1939 and the fourth part in 1940. Thus it took ten years to complete the printing of the work, leaving aside the period of study and preparation of the material. The whole work consists of about 1650 pages. It is comprehensive from the point of view of numerous references especially collected and quoted from foreign sources. It is also critical in its estimate of Shivaji's character, career and achievements. It is both a source book and a historical description and estimate of the events of the period and the man who changed the medieval political map of India. Shivaji created a revolution in the politics of the country and established Swarajya in the Deccan and created a new system of Government divorced from feudal conceptions of the old regime. His successes contributed to the failure of Aurangzeb's imperial and religious policy. After Shivaji we enter a new era in the politics of India. The Mughals were checked, defeated and subordinated by his successors. The eighteenth century in India is the century of Maratha dominance and rule. The Mughal power was crippled and became practically non-existent after the rise of the Maharathas.

Shivaji's enemies and some foreign historians have not only minimised the importance of his work but also used many terms of abuse in relating the events of his life and in estimating his character and successes. These charges against him have been discussed thread-bare by historians like Ranade, Sarkar, Sardesai, Kincaid and Balkrishna, and Shivaji has come out unscathed from the fiery ordeal of historian's, politician's and moralist's criticism. Dr. Balkrishna has critically examined all the charges against him in the fourth part of his book. He has shown from contemporary records, from the necessities and standards of the time, and even from canons of modern historical criticism that Shivaji was a unique and great man, possessing high standards of life.

We fully endorse the estimates and views of Dr. Balkrishna about the work and personality of Shivaji. He does not show any bias or prejudice in his interpretations.

S. V. P.

AUTOMOBILE BUSINESS IN INDIA

"Automobile Business in India" by R. A. Ramaswamy is a book which is going to find special favour not only with all those already in the automobile business but with those far sighted persons who visualize the great part such industries are going to play in postwar India.

Already one company has been floated by Mr. Walchand Hirachand—a second by the Birlas. Dame Rumour has it that the former is going to manufacture Chrysler products and the latter Studebaker, both excellent makes which have been well tried out in the Indian market.

A word of advice here—probably quite unnecessary. It seems of a great pity that Indian industrialists push the trademarks of foreign companies instead of buying out the patent rights and pushing their own trade marks. What the foreigners usually do is they make you do the hard work pushing their brand, and then the moment their brand is well established, they either open out themselves, or else pedal their line to get the highest quota from others, little caring for the ground work prepared and the risks taken by the original distributor. .. ..

Each chapter in this book has been well chosen and the information given therein is just to the point, without frills, so that the ordinary reader knows exactly what the author wants to say!

The advice given to car salesmen and what his qualifications should be, must be read by All our "Vasalino Salesmen" who more often than not, know nothing about the technical details of the product he tries to sell. He even goes as far as to say any such study and or knowledge is a waste of time because the public are only interested in what DISCOUNT he can give as compared to the salesmen of another company!

While this is unfortunately true to a large degree, a trained salesman with the knowledge of all the technical details of the product he sells, as compared to this competitors, is bound to click even with the most ignorant and discount-grabbing of buyers.

Mr. Ramaswamy's book touches even the taxi business in India and the 20 others chapters all put together in small book form makes "Automobile Business in India" a most interesting study of the whole aspect as it actually is and can be in a Free India.

It is a Padma Publication and retails at Rs. 2 for the first volume, the second volume being still under production.

D R. D. WADIA.

DETECTIVE JANAKI By Kamala Sathianadhan. (Thacker & Co. Ltd., Bombay. Rs. 2/8).

This is a mildly interesting story of South Indian life and though it has no particular claims to literary merit it escapes the more glaring defects of the work of Indian writers who express themselves in English.

HILLA C. VAKEEL.

My dear Sisters and Brothers

Try to walk properly, and that will keep you happy. Sounds funny, does it not? But don't treat this as a joke. Examine, if you like, and find out for yourself how you have been walking. Then walk from your hips with a fairly straight leg. You see most people walk from the knee and make no use of the hip turn. By so doing they lose the spring of the body and jar it slightly at every step. Some people hurry along with anxious steps, some slonch along with their heads down, while others have a natural easy swing which helps to induce serenity. That is a clear indication that walking can suggest the moods of a particular person.

Now, you think of the body as made up of two halves, a top half and a bottom half, divided at the waist. When the bottom half turns one way, the top half should turn the other way, As the left foot goes forward, the right shoulder should go forward, toes pointed straight in front, not turned outwards. This double movement of the trunk makes the arms and legs swing like pendulums. And then walking becomes easy and pleasant and helps to restore the bodily balance. It will naturally bring a smile on your lips, make you forget your worries, and let you feel very happy. Just try it.

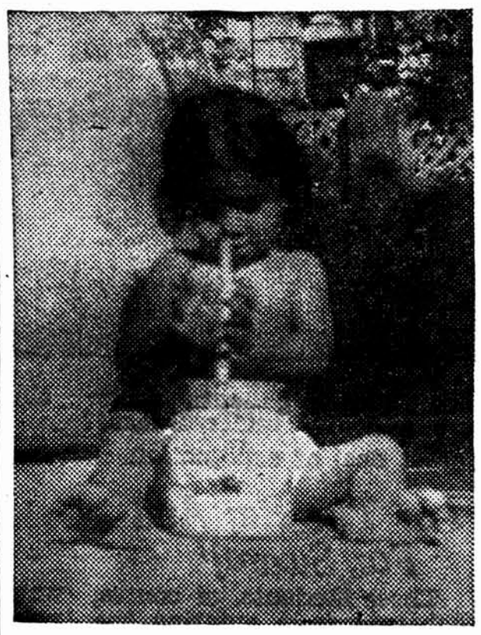
* * *

To feel happy and to remain happy is a great art-worth acquiring, you will agree. Is not everyone trying to do everything for the sake of his happiness? If writing these letters did not make me happy, I know I would discontinue to write them from week to week continuously. If reading them did not make you happy, I know you would care twopence to go through them. Some of the elders who started reading these letters in the "Chronicle" when they were as young as you, still continue to read them—probably they find some sort of joy in them. And many of your age do not care to read them, for perhaps they consider them as trivial. So it all depends on what can create joy or happiness in every individual.

Once a friend of mine asked me why I was a spendthrift? And I asked him why he did not like to spend at all? The obvious reason in both our cases was that spending made me happy, and saying made him happy. To that extent, to say it in clear words, we were both selfish. We were doing what made each of us happy. Another friend, on another occasion, arguing the same point, asked me if there was no such thing as sacrifice then? Sacrifice there is—why not? But do we not make a sacrifice also only to satisfy our ego—just to feel happy within ourselves? Then, how are we not selfish?

* * *

All the same, you will agree that what is called "sacrifice"—what makes us feel "un-selfish"—is really the thing that creates joy, expands happiness. You wish to give all you can to a friend whom you like or love. Giving becomes the essence of happiness. May we not then try and give smiles to the world, if nothing else, and thus scatter happiness? People who are continually unhappy or worried are not helpful in the least. They make life unpleasant for other people. Why not remind ourselves that everyone has some sort of suffering to go through in life? And are not the people round us keeping their troubles to themselves? Then what business have we to inflict our worries on others?



"CHURNING HAPPINESS"

(Harin Upadhyaya)

There is a sister of mine with innocent eyes and sparkling smiles. She would go on relating to me happy storeyettes. And she always has laughter on her lips. I would never get tired in her company for her talks remove all my little worries, and they help to revive my happy moods. Thus, too, through talking to others in a pleasant manner, by relating to them jolly good incidents of every day occrrence, we could bring about happiness. On the other hand, if we went on telling others about our troubles and difficulties, we would add these to the ones they already have, and how boring it would be!

* * *

Matunga Balkan-ji-Bari arranged an excursion to Vajreshwari Sunday before last, and they kindly invited me also to join them. We had a very happy time the whole of the day, enjoying dips in all the hot water fountains as well as in the cold water of the river. Then lunch which everybody had brought with himself—and tea—and of course, games and songs and stories which continued even in the bus while returning and throughout the local train journey.

Marine Lines Balkan-ji-Bari invited Mr. Abid Ali Jaferbhai, Vice-President, Bombay Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari, to their Branch last Sunday. And till he came, I got an opportunity to be with the children, who cleverly got about four stories from me—And probably I would have been pressed to continue, but by that time Mr. Abid Ali had arrived and come to my rescue. He spoke to them a little, and they were mighty pleased.

All Good Wishes from Your Loving Dada.

"GULISTAN", Khar-Bombay 2.

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"A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF MARATHI BOOKS: 1800-1937" Pp. 1525. Edited and Published by S. G. Date, 993, Sadashiva, Poona 2. Price Rs. 60.

This volume contains a classified list of all the books published in Marathi from 1800 to 1937 with brief notes about the authors, subjects etc. It is baserd on Dewey's decimal classification scheme and represents the singlehanded labour of Mr. Date for the last ten years. It is an invaluable reference books for all those interested in the growth of Marathi literature and ought to find a place in every library and educational institution.

"WILL YOU MARRY ME PLEASE?" By Khooshie L. Panjabi (Punkul Publishing House, Bombay. As. 14)

The story which lends its title to this collection of tales deals with a woman's Eternal Quest and describes somewhat bitterly the trials of those who venture forth to seek for a husband. The text is annoyingly sprinkled over with advertisments and the writing which is undistinguished makes no demands whatever on the reader's intelligence—a fact for which unintelligent readers will, no doubt be profoundly grateful.

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The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

"The Portfolio of Defence would be in the hands of the National Government which would be genuinely interested in the defence of the country and may render great assistance in the shaping of policies".

—GANDHIJI

★

When Free Men Defend Their Freedom

Ever since the publication of Gandhiji's latest statement on the solution of the political deadlock, certain foreign friends of India have been asking the question: Would the Congress really have the will and the means to organise the defence of the country?

"Do you really mean to tell me", one of them—an American—asked me, "that your leaders who have been in jail for two years would, as soon as they come out, set about rousing the people with anti-Fascist slogans to defend the country against the Japanese aggressor?"

When I said, "Yes, of course", he said, "It would be amazing if they did!"

To which I made reply: "It is not so amazing when you consider that it is *our* country. Who could be more keen to defend it than us?" And I recalled those moving words of Maulana Azad at the historic A.I.C.C. meeting on August 8, 1942, when he said in effect, "The Englishman can leave India and go to his homeland, England. But if the Japs overrun, India, it is the Indian who will suffer. He has nowhere else to go." Indeed, it was made abundantly clear on that occasion by more speakers than one that it was the acute realization of the menace of invasion of India that had motivated the "Quit India" resolution which demanded nothing more than the freedom to defend our freedom.

What Gandhiji has said now is nothing new. Over two years ago he wrote:

> "Remember, I am more interested than the British in keeping the Japanese out. For Britain's defeat in Indian waters may mean *only the loss of India* but if Japan wins *"India loses everything."*

★

Exhibit A,

"But", persisted my American friend, "couldn't the two years in detention have made a difference in the views of men like Azad and Nehru. Surely they must be feeling embittered."

"Of course, they must be feeling embittered," I replied, "they should be if they are human—and I know they are! But with all the legitimate bitterness against imperialism which I fully share with them, they could not be indifferent to the safety of their own country."

"But how can you be sure?" demanded the incorrigible Yankee.

And so, as Exhibit A, in this case of CONGRESS versus IMPERIALISM that is being tried before the jury of world public opinion, I produce a letter of Doctor Syed Mahmud, a member of the Congress Working Committee and closest friend of Nehru, sent to his son from Ahmednagar fort where he is detained along with other members of the Working Committee. And this is what Doctor Mahmud has to say on the specific issue that we are discussing:—

> "The Japanese invasion of India must have agitated you a great deal.
>
> "Our Johnnies (he obviously means the Government will probably meet it appreciably as they are not so unprepared as before. Still it has upset us a great deal. It seems to be a real invasion thrust.
>
> "A real enthusiasm should be created in the country against it and the morale of the country should be kept up.
>
> "No anger or bitterness against the Government should be allowed to come in the way in this matter. Whatever may be our differences with the Government we are all one in this respect.
>
> "You can speak about it to others and tell them what we think about it. There will probably be misunderstanding in the minds of the people about it through Government's own propaganda against us."

★

Can Prisoners Defend Their Country?

But there is more concrete evidence of the Congress leaders' determination to resist the Japanese invader. Sjt. Bardoloi, the Congress leader and ex-Premier of Assam, gave a rousing call for the defence of the country against the Fascist aggressor as soon as he was released. And every other Congress leader of Assam who is out of jail has echoed the same cry—and yet most of these staunch anti-Fascists who can and do want to organize the defence of the country, are interned in their towns and prevented from moving about or addressing meetings.

But do the Government and its British and American apologists expect the Congress leaders to defend their country when they are locked in prisons?

Imperialists never learn from history. The Labour leaders of Malaya, staunch anti-Fascists, were kept imprisoned till the Japs were knocking on the very doors of Singapore. Yet they died fighting the invader. But it was too late for them to organize the people for defence. And Singapore, along with the rest of Malaya, was lost.

INDIAN SOLDIERS—They have been fighting gallently under the 'Raj'. Will they not fight even more gallently under Swaraj?

★

'This Land Belongs To You And Me'!

Further evidence? Here are two young Bengali students sitting opposite me at this moment who have recently given a practical demonstration of how free India would mobilize her people for national defence. Along with eight others, also belonging to the Bengal Stuents' Federation, they have just returned from a 2,500 miles tour of Assam, India's frontline province, in the course of which they helped to rouse the people and build anti-Fascist morale by staging patriotic plays, singing patriotic songs, dancing patriotic dances. Incidentally, they collected money for starving Bengal.

I particularly like one of their songs which they have translated for me thus:

The Japanese are at our door
Raise your fist
This land is nothing but a temporary 'dera'
For the British,
But this land belongs to you and me.
Wake up, wake up, oh you all
Patriots of our land!
In a thousand voices raise the cry
We want to save our land!

Who sent them on this anti-Fascist mission with their blessings? Congress leaders of Bengal like Mrs. Nellie Sen Gupta and Mr. J. C. Gupta, and patriotic intellectuals like Dr. Radha Kumud Mukherji and Tarashankar Banerji.

Who welcomed them and organised their shows during their visit to Assam? The Congress leaders of Assam, one of whom (Mr. Mohi Borah) said in his welcome speech at Nowgong:—

> "The Congress in Assam has definite instructions for the people to-day when the Japs have crossed into their land and when thousands of problems face them. But as it is banned it cannot reach the people and tell them what to do about Jap aggression and what to do about other problems. These students are carrying the message of the Congress to the people."

In cities, town and villages, right up to places a few miles from the fighting front, these intrepid students carried their message. The people flocked to their shows and applauded the patriotic, anti-Fascist sentiments of their plays and songs.

But how did the Bureaucracy react to this anti-Fascist mission. The gesture was characteristic—almost symbolic! The young patriots were suspected of being Fifth Columnists or Japanese Spies and at least on one occasion were marched to the police station, and released only after a great deal of explanation.

★

For The Raj And For Swaraj!

These students, of course, were debarred from entering the prohibited frontline area. After all they were not an ENSA party nor a group of dancing girls so often sent out to entertain our soldiers! This was not the sort of entertainment that the authorities want to give the soldiers—nor the sort of anti-Fascism they want to instil in them! But still at many places, soldiers did attend their shows and appreciated the patriotic sentiments expressed in the songs, dances and plays.

Which brings us to the question: Are the average Indian soldier and officer patriotic? These students are sure they are. And this view is corroborated by A.P.I. War Correspondent D. R. Mankekar who has just returned from the Assam-Burma front. This is what he had to say on the subject in the course of a talk he broadcast recently from the Calcutta station of the A.I.R.:—

> "Now as for the Indian Sepoy. Tough, gruff and simple-sculed, he is, indeed. He does not understand nor care for politics. Nevertheless, he is intensely patriotic in his own simple—and to my mind, the better—way. To him every Indian, be he a Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, is a Hindustani, and that means a lot to him.
>
> "Contrary to suggestions made in some quarters, he loves an Indian officer and is proud of him. He would like to see more Indian officers in the army, because not only it tickles his pride but he is more at home and comfortable with an Indian officer above him who understands his language and mind.
>
> "I have no hesitation in saying that notwithstanding its communal composition, with its Hindu 'langar' and Muslim 'langar', there is greater communal concord in the Indian army than anywhere else in India."

Thanks, Confrere Mankekar, for bringing such heartening news from the front. There need be little doubt that the Indian soldier who has always fought so gallantly under the 'Raj' will fight even more gallantly for the defence of his country under Swaraj!

★

The Bewildered Mr. Gelder

Stuart Gelder, the 39-year-old correspondent of the "News Chronicle", who was the Hero (or, if you like, the Villain) of last week, is feeling bewidered. Lying in bed in Bombay with an attack of flu he can hardly believe that it is he who has produced such world-shaking repercussions with his three-hour interview with Gandhiji. He is flattered, of course, by what Gandhiji has said about his transparent sincerity of purpose." He had hoped that his intervention would help to resolve the deadlock. But he had not bargained for the undue importance and publicity he is personally getting.

Stuart is one of those rare idealists who somehow blunder into journalism. He has felt acutely the tragic futility of the British-Indian deadlock. More than a scoop, he wanted to break the vicious circle of this deadlock when he sought an interview with Gandhiji. That it also turned out to be a scoop was his luck.

Stuart Gelder came to India from Chungking to replace late Stuart Emeny. But this country is not unfamiliar to him. He has been here before. If my information is correct in 1927 he worked for some time on the staff of the "Illustrated Weekly". He may also claim kinship with India, as his sister is married to the well-known Indian writer, Mulk Raj Anand.

Behind Stuart Gelder stands the "News Chronicle"—a liberal organ of public opinion in England. The Editor, Gerald Barry, and the Foreign Editor, Norman Cliff, have both cabled their congratulations to their enterprising correspondent. The "News Chronicle" has been all along keen on an honourable settlement of the deadlock in India, and has been one of the very few papers which has consistently presented the Congress viewpoint to its readers. In a large measure, this is said to be due to the influence of the Foreign Editor, Norman Cliff who is a pacifist (though he fought in the First World War) and, therefore, a great admirer of Gandhiji.

★

Gelder's journalistic-political scoop' recalls the part played by George Slocombe of the "Daily Herald" during the 1930 Civil Disobedience campaign.

Representing as he did the organ of the British Labour Party (which was then in power), Slocombe was given privileges that no other journalist has ever been able to get from the Government. He was allowed to interview Gandhiji in Yeravada jail and discuss the basis of a possible political settlement. Never before was a reporter allowed to interview a political prisoner and nothing like it has happened ever since. It was Slocombe's interview, followed by Sapru-Jayakar mediation, that led to the historic Gandhi-Irwin Pact—the Pact which provoked a certain notoriously anti-Indian Tory politician to express his horror "at the nauseating spectacle of a naked fakir striding up the stairs of the Viceregal Palace to parley with the representative of the King-Emperor on terms of equality."

Would Gelder's achievement match that of Slocombe? India—the whole world—wonders!

But there is one vital difference between 1930 and 1944. The notoriously anti-India politician has, in the meantime shifted his residence to 10, Downing Street.

By the way, is it true that the Viceroy refused to see Gelder? Speak up, Mr. Gelder!

★

People's Theatre Plans

The Indian People's Theatre Association, encouraged by the success of their "VOICE OF BENGAL" show, has announced some ambitious plans for the future which include the holding of an All-India conference and People's Theatre Festival.

Many will be both interested in and intrigued by the idea of the People's Theatre Festival. If the People's Theatre can bring it off with a bang they would have made an enduring place for themselves in the cultural life of Bombay.

America Wonders And Worries:

Will Europe Go Communist After The War?

By DEMAREE BESS

There was a time, less than 200 years ago, when European parliaments and kings set out to plan the future of the American colonies. They were so busy drawing up blueprints for us that they failed to notice that a revolution was brewing over here through which the colonists would settle their own destiny.

To-day that situation is being reversed. While Americans are heatedly arguing, "What shall we do with Europe?" a revolution has already started in Europe itself through which Europeans propose to decide their own future.

Europe's revolution became inevitable when the United States, Great Britain and Russia jointly promised Europe's uprooted people the right "to choose the form of government under which they desire to live."

That is a tremendous promise. It has aroused intense activity among European leftists and rightists and moderates. And it partly explains the civil wars in Yugoslavia and Greece, the complicated manoeuvres of French politicians at Algiers, the agitation among exiled governments in London, Washington, Cairo and Mexico City. These Europeans foresee some kind of general elections in post-war Europe in which revolutionary issues will be decided. The present outbreaks are pre-election skirmishes, with rival candidates and platforms jockeying for position.

NO "STATUS QUO"

Probably the only thing upon which all Europeans are now agreed is that it will be impossible to restore the prewar 'status quo'. I visited most of the German-occupied countries in 1940 and 1941, and even then the people of those countries conceded that Hitler had upset Europe so thoroughly that the Continent never could be put back together in the same old shell.

And yet, until Soviet Russia got into this war, British and American statesmen apparently did not appreciate the inevitability of a European revolution. Assorted governments-in-exile were set up in London which resembled, as nearly as possible, prewar governments. Our test of approval for these exiles was merely whether they were pro-German or anti-German, and the leaders of a reactionary Balkan clique were welcomed in London as cordially as any progressive refugee statesman. Now, however, Anglo-American leaders are gradually realizing that revolutions are brewing and if we hope to have any influence upon Europe's forthcoming elections we must select our candidates with more discrimination.

At the Moscow Conference the three Allies agreed to work closely together to insure order until Europeans could choose their own forms of government. Obviously no country will be permitted to choose Nazi or Fascist forms. But Americans cannot gracefully object if some countries elect the Soviet system.

The Soviet system and our system provide Europeans with contrasted alternatives. Most Americans do not like the Soviet system. Are we, therefore, going to electioneer against it in Europe? The Russians are proud of their system. Are they going to campaign in its behalf?

Present indications are that numerous disorders will occur before ravaged Europe can finally settle down to any real peace. Yet it is not too early to estimate how postwar Europe is shaping itself. It seems probable that Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden will be content to retain their prewar constitutional monarchies. These governments were solidly founded upon majority support and can be expected to survive without violent political upheavals. We may also expect that the Anglo-American platform will prevail in what remains of Finland after a settlement with Russia; we can expect Switzerland to retain its present form of Government, and Czechoslovakia to its prewar status.

SOVIET CLAIM

On the other hand, Soviet leaders have openly claimed for their system the Baltic states—Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania—together with portions of Finland, Poland and Rumania. Apparently the English-speaking powers have already conceded the "elections" in these areas.

Between these two groups lie Europe's doubtful states, and it is here that her long-range future may be decided. The doubtful states include Germany and Italy, together with their satellites Hungary, Bulgaria and Rumania. France may also be listed as doubtful, likewise Spain, Poland, Greece, Yugoslavia and Albania.

Germany's future is the biggest question mark. The German people, as Stalin repeatedly has pointed out, cannot be destroyed. They will survive, some 60,000,000 strong, to organize themselves under some kind of government. The evidence suggests that most Germans, given their choice, will prefer an authoritarian government, with arbitrary powers to handle the grave problems which are certain to confront them for decades. The Germans tried out Western-style democracy after the last war and it didn't work. Too, the Germans have been accustomed for more than ten years to a system which more nearly resembles the Soviet dictatorship than Western-style democracy. Their young people have been taught to regard democracy as old-fashioned and outmoded. I should say that the prospects for our platform do not look very favourable in Germany.

The next largest people in Europe are the French, and recent developments in the French National Committee provide evidence on probable trends in postwar France. General Charles de Gaulle's prestige seems to be steadily increasing inside France. Anglo-Americans are inclined to attribute his popularity to the fact that he has stood as a symbol of resistance to German conquest. But it seems to me his rising prestige is also due to his uncompromising resistance to Anglo-American domination. He recognizes that Frenchmen are as anxious to be independent of Britain and the United States as of Germany.

De Gaulle insists that his French committee is entitled to supervise the elections by which France will choose its form of government.

POST-WAR TRENDS

Time and again he has pointed out the need for a thoroughgoing overhaul of the former French system, political and economic. This revolution in France is likely to follow orderly and democratic channels, because the roots of Western democracy are deep. Nevertheless, the politics and economy of post-war France almost certainly will be organized on more authoritarian lines than in prewar France, for General de Gaulle has endorsed reforms so far-reaching that they can hardly be carried out except by an arbitrary government.

Moreover, this trend in France—away from uncontrolled politics and free enterprise—will probably be accelerated by similar trends in central and eastern Europe. No election forecasts for these countries will come anywhere near the mark if they fail to note that the prospective voters were acutely dissatisfied with their prewar forms of government. The changes they vote are not likely to be in the direction of democracy.

After the first World War, our form of government struck roots in only one country in this region—Czechoslovakia. But when Czechoslovakia was sold out at Munich, the Czechs understandably lost much of their enthusiasm for Western democracy. Many of them looked hopefully toward Soviet Russia, but when Russia signed its pact with Germany the Czechs found themselves sold out again. To-day they probably will choose their form of Government with an admirable spirit of objective detachment.

The other countries of eastern and central Europe which experimented with democratic government after the last war all reverted, sooner or later, to dictatorships. Some never even had a chance to try democracy, for they have been ruled right along by reactionary cliques. These countries are ripe for revolution, and their revolutionary conflicts sometimes have interfered with the war's progress, notably in Yugoslavia and Greece.

In 1941-42, General Draja Mikhailovitch, the Yugoslav guerrilla leader, was pictured for us as one of the war's greatest heroes: he dared fight on doggedly against the Nazis without adequate weapons or food for his ragged army. And then, bit by bit, we were told that Mikhailovitch wasn't such a hero, after all. Ugly reports began to appear that he was actually fighting for the Germans. The Yugoslav guerrillas were battling with each other, and a new general nicknamed Tito was the real hero. Tito is a Communist revolutionary who fought in the Spanish civil war.

Later we heard that a similar civil war had broken out among guerrilla fighters in Greece. The passions which divide the people of these two countries are revolutionary—one side wants drastic political and economic changes, and the other resists such changes. The revolutionaries believe that they can depend upon the great powers to defeat Germany, but they are not so confident about Anglo-American intentions toward their own reactionary politicians.

AT CROSS ROADS

Underlying conflicts exist also in most other eastern and central European countries. Their former institutions—political, social and economic—have been smashed by the Nazis, and very tough governments probably will be required to start things running again. This time these people want popular governments which will endure, and the Soviet dictatorship may appeal to them as a model. Racially and geographically, too, many of these eastern Europeans have ties with Russia.

Perhaps the chief question before Americans is not "What shall we do with Europe?" but rather "How can we get along with the European revolution?" Those who have made a parlor pastime of postwar blueprinting usually have been totally unrealistic in two respects: first, by assuming that all European peoples will naturally select democratic forms of government; second, by assuming that any outsiders will possess a decisive voice in determining what occurs in Europe.

Europeans stand today at a crossroads. Our own interests demand that we give them every encouragement to move in the direction of parliamentry democracy and private enterprise.

But Russia's presence in the victorious coalition assures powerful support for those who prefer to follow the road leading to an authoritarian state and controlled economy. If enough Europeans elect to follow that road, then Americans will be compelled to readjust completely their economic, if not their political, relationships with Europe.—Condensed from "Saturday Evening Post" by the 'Readers Digest.'

Mussolini Tells Story Of His Arrest And Rescue

The following story, purporting to be Mussolini's own account of his fall, capture and rescue by the Germans, is printed in the Nazi newspaper "Hamburger Fremdenblatt."

Everything that happened in Italy last summer had been most cunningly planned in advance—right down to the smallest detail. Everyone concerned knew exactly what to do at zero hour.

From the start, to the armistice and the declaration of war on Germany everything was to go like clockwork. I was to be cut off from the world and subsequently to be handed over to England.

On the evening of my interview with King Victor, the day after the meeting of the Fascist Grand Council—on July 25—I was arrested.

Coming down the steps of the Villa Savoia, I was surprised to see an ambulance waiting instead of my car.

A Carabinieri officer ordered me to get in. I knew it was a trap, but yielded to force.

The officer, two policemen and two Carabinieri, armed with submachine-guns, followed me into the ambulance, I was taken to the Carabinieri barracks and closely guarded, in order, they said, to protect me against the fury of the populace.

After an hour or so I was taken in the same ambulance to some other barracks on the other side of the Tiber river. There I was locked up in the C.O.'s room, the door being guarded by three Carabinieri. All my movements were closely watched.

During the night of July 25 to 26 at 1 a. m. I was handed a letter from Marshal Badoglio in which he explained that all that was being done had no other object but to protect me against a very serious plot.

"As soon as you tell me where you wish to be taken, for private residence, I shall arrange this for you", the Marshal's letter went on.

I dictated my answer at once to General Ferrone, the officer in attendance, saying.

1. "I thank Marshal Badoglio for the steps taken to protect me.
2. "The only residence I consider possible is Rocca Delle Caminate.
3. "I have no intention of creating difficulties for the new Government.
4. "I note that the war is to continue. If so the new Government will do what the country's honour, interest and prestige require."

Finally I wihsed Marshal Badoglio every success in his new task.

This letter never saw daylight—undoubtedly they did not dare publish it. Late at night on July 27 I was ordered brusquely to be ready to leave.

Riding in a tightly-shut car with blinds down, I noticed that we were not travelling north, but south.

At midnight we reached the port of Gaeta, whence a little steamer, the s.s. Peresphone took me to the island of Ponza, which we reached at 1 p.m. Here a great crowd was gathered at the port.

I was offered flowers and fruit, and there was not the slightest sign of animosity. The Mayor and other dignitaries welcomed me, some with tears in their eves.

I was guarded by 50 police and 50 Carabinieri, but these troops were frequently changed.

I was lodged in a small house on the shore, where I spent long hours watching the sea and expecting to see a British cruiser any moment.

The neighbouring houses were evacuated by order of the police. I spent a week without any news whatever.

Then, one night, I was told to prepare for another journey.

"You are in danger," an officer said. "You must leave."

At 3 a.m. I was taken on board an old French destroyer, the Panthere. When I inquired for my destination I was told Maddalena.

This small island, off the north east point of Sardhinia, was reached in the afternoon and I was taken to the house of an Englishman by the name of Wewer (Weaver?)

I stayed therefore almost three weeks. The food was very bad and the monotony was deadly. Occasionally I was allowed to go for a short walk. On one of these walks I met a labourer, who whispered: "Duce! don't worry, nothing lasts for ever."

One day a German plane flew over the house so low that I could see the pilot's face. This raised my hopes, which, in truth, I had never quite lost. A little later I received from the Fuehrer a wonderful gift, a luxury edition of Nietzsche's works in 24 volumes.

Eventually I was allowed to read the Italian communiques, but I saw at a glance that the talk about continuing the war was mere pretence.

On August 27 I was told that I should leave next day. A Red Cross plane took me to Lake Bracciano, 25 miles north of Rome, whence I went by ambulance to the Gran Sasso. After spending a few days in the funicular railway station I was taken to the Gran Sasso Hotel.

During all this time the secret Armistice negotiation between Badoglio, Churchill and Roosevelt continued.

We now know that I was to be handed over to Washington for a great "War Criminal Demonstration Trial"—and I was even to be shown to the public for an entrance fee.

On August 1, Roosevelt had sent a note to all neutral States telling them what to do if I asked for refuge there. For the first time I was now allowed to see the papers, and the reason for this soon became clear to me—I was being attacked and described as a "clown" and "low-down fellow."

At the Gran Sasso I was watched more strictly than ever—but having been secretly informed that the Germans were in Rome I knew the Fuehrer would not fail me.

It was a splendid undertaking in which surprise was decisive.

It was all over in two minutes. At two o'clock in the afternoon I was standing at the window of my room when I saw some German planes coming out of the clouds. I guessed at ones that I was to be liberated.

I leaned out of the window and shouted to the excited guard not to move, on their lives—and there were the German parachutists.

In a twinkling the hotel was surrounded with machine-gun troops and the bewildered Italian guards made no attempt to resist.

A Fiesler Storch aeroplane, for vertical take-off, had been provided because the runway was too short and in bad condition.

After a few anxious moments when the machine refused start, we took off normally and flew straight to Rome, which we reached in two hours.

Thence another plane took me to Vienna, which I reached at 11 p.m.

The next day I was in Munich.

BEST-SELLERS IN CHUNGKING

(Continued from Page 2.)

Whom The Bell Tolls" and John Steinbeck's "The Moon Is Down" are also popular.

Chinese readers are also fond of such old classics as Tolstoy's "War And Peace", Turgenev's "Rodin" Dicken's "David Copperfield", and Goethe's "Sorrows of Young Werther", translated by Kub Mo-jo is one of the current best-sellers in Chungking, Kweilin and other cities.

More than 20 per cent of the wartime magazines are literary. The newest one is "World Literature," edited by three university professors, which prints translations of foreign novels, short stories, poems and plays. Another popular magazine printing foreign literature is "Time and Tide Literature."

Kweilin is the wartime home of many literary men. The best literary magazines are published there. But Chungking has now become the centre of publication and cultural activities of the country. Publishers say that there are more book stores in Chungking than in any other city of the same size in the world.

(Condensed from "China At War")

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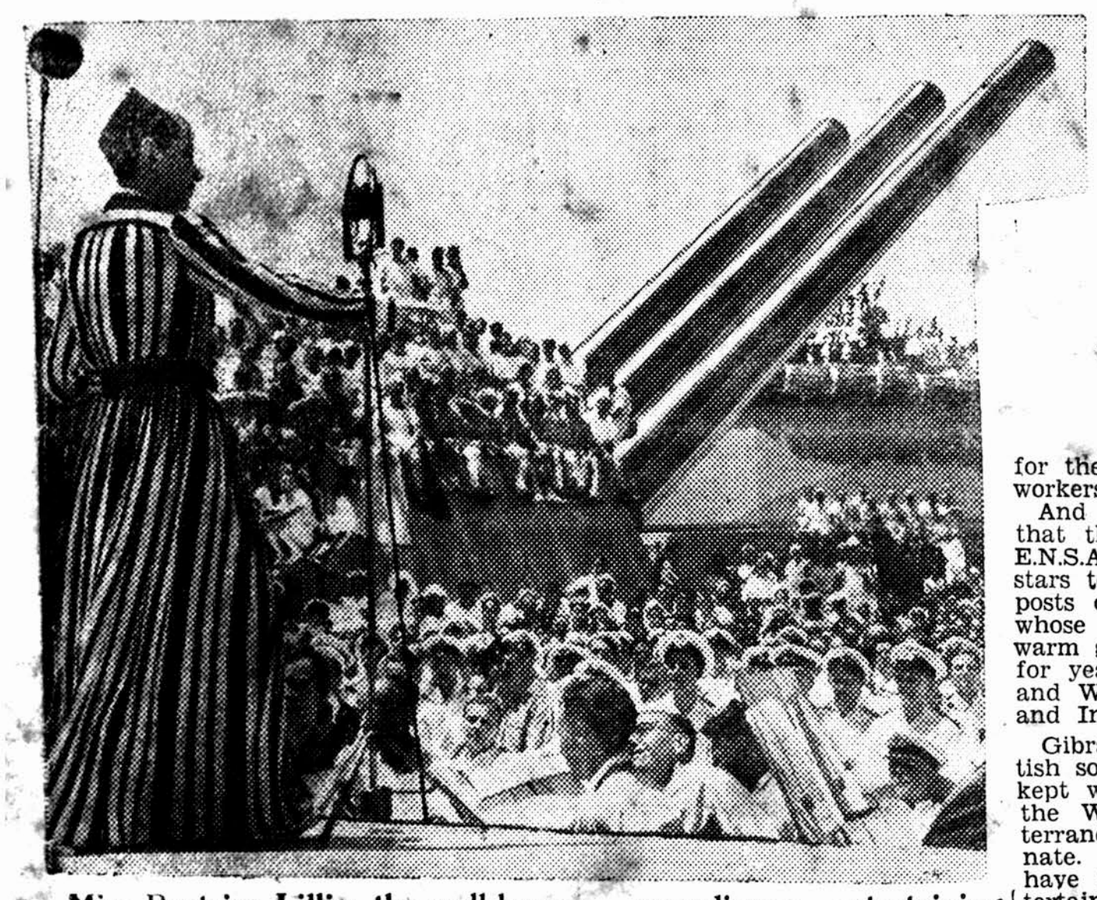
BRITAIN'S ACTORS GO TO WAR

By SIDNEY HORNIBLOW



Miss Beatrice Lillie, the well-known comedienne entertaining officers and sailors on board one of Britain's newest battleships in the Mediterranean.

It seems strange at first thought that in the midst of war the drama should flourish. But all through history it has happened.

When men and nations have been struggling for their very existence playwrights and actors give of their best, seeming almost to be inspired by the real drama which is being played out around them.

In Britain to-day the history of the theatre through the ages is being reacted. The drama in London is prospering as it has never prospered before. Playwrights and producers with great plays ready for presentation wait patiently for theatres to become vacant. Every one of London's forty theatres puts up the "house full" boards night after night.

But it is only the fortunate few in the midst of a great war who are in London, or who can visit the capital, and are thus able to enjoy a night out at the theatre. Millions of British men and women are serving in the forces, or working night and day in the war factories. It is only on the rarest of occasions that they can go to the theatre: what more than the theatre should go to them. And it was for this that there was formed, at the beginning of the war, the Entertainments National Service Association.

E. N. S. A.

The finest actors and actresses in the land have lent themselves wholeheartedly to the work of this Association in entertaining soldiers, sailors, airmen and war workers wherever they may be. E.N.S.A., which has its headquarters in the historic old Drury Lane Theatre in the heart of London's theatreland, gave its first performance only a few days after war began. Now, in a typical week, 180 different companies of actors and actresses, music hall and concert artists, working at nominal fees, give 1,650 performances to the forces at home in the British Isles.

Besides these shows for the troops, E.N.S.A. sends entertainment parties to 1,500 British war factories. Actors and actresses who have been used to appearing on perfectly set London stages play their part now in huts and tents and canteens. They sacrifice time and money and comfort for the sake of the troops and the workers.

And it is not only in Great Britain that they are doing this good work. E.N.S.A. sends its famous London stars to the battlefields and war outposts overseas. Actors and actresses whose names have twinkled in the warm glow of London's theatre lights for years past have gone to Iceland and West Africa, to Persia and Iraq and India.

Gibraltar, where thousands of British soldiers, sailors and airmen have kept watch on the fortress guarding the Western entrance to the Mediterranean, has been specially fortunate. Parties of world-famous stars have flown there by bomber to entertain the troops. They have given shows in aircraft carriers and warships, huts and hospitals. Their audiences paid anything from 3d. to a shilling to see them. In London, theatre-goers pay from 5s. to 15s. to see the same artists.

The highest salary paid by E.N.S.A. is £10 a week. This is the war pay for stars formerly accustomed to earning perhaps £50 or £100 or more a week. It is a sacrifice happily borne. The trouble is that there are not enough artists available to provide all the entertainment E.N.S.A. would like to give the troops. Hundreds of actors are troops themselves—they joined the forces in the early days of the war.

A concert party of British actors and actresses which was the first to tour the forward areas in the Western Desert to give regular concerts to the troops at the battle front. Many of these concert parties had to brave the same dangers as the front line men themselves.

Better Plays

Wherever one turns in the British theatre to-day one finds actors and actresses, producers and stage hands, managers and playwrights working overtime, and often against heavy odds. Clothes rationing is a nightmare to producers, especially of the more spectacular revues. In the winter the black-out and the necessary precautions that must be taken against air raids mean that the times of performances have to be put forward to enable audiences to reach their homes as soon after sundown as possible.

The call-up of men and women—for the forces and other war work means that theatre staffs have been cut down to a minimum and many a time the actors and managers have to give a hand themselves with the scene-shifting between acts.

In the midst of all these difficulties the most gratifying development of all has been the production of better plays, wittier comedies and grander and more memorable dramas than the British stage has known for years. The trashy and the trivial, the cheap and the flashy that one met so often in the peacetime farces and revues, have disappeared almost completely.

The accent is on culture and a great lead in this field has been given by the Council for the Encouragement of Music and the Arts. This body, which has 20 drama, opera and ballet companies playing in London and throughout the British Isles, was launched by a gift of £25,000 from the Pilgrim Trust and is now financed by the British Board of Education. The board is providing C.E.M.A. with £1,15,000 this year, of which £30,000 will be spent in sending the finest orchestras and singers to entertain the workers at the factories and to encourage war workers' bands, choirs and gramophone clubs.

Perhaps the most significant of all the theatrical development in a Britain at war is the success of that Congreve comedy "Love for Love." When that comedy was written Britain was passing through one of the most critical and turbulent periods in her history, a period from which she emerged as a nation whose power and prestige were high. The spirit of adventure stirred in the hearts of her men just as it stirs in their hearts to-day.

That rich and rare comedy which appealed to the British in their hour of destiny 200 years ago appeals to them again to-day. It is a sign of the times.

A concert party entertaining war workers on the night shift. This party had already on the same day given two concerts before this to other shift workers.

An audience of A.T.S., members of the women's army, being entertained at an Army Camp somewhere in England by Gracie Fields, the famous comedienne.

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